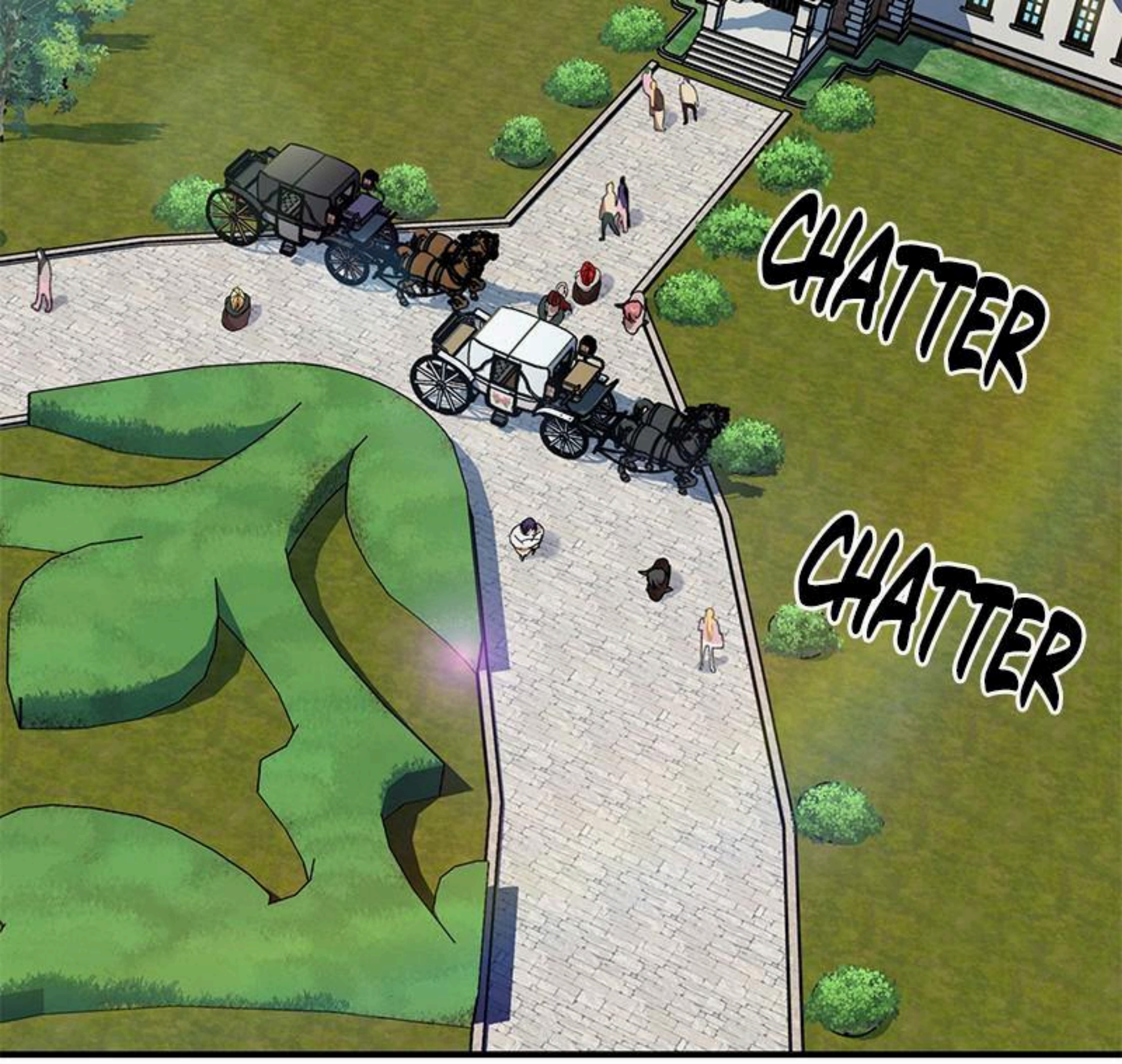



CHATTER
CHATTER

FINALLY...
I GET TO GO
HOME.

NEIGH



THIS TRIP
WAS SO WILD THAT

I ACTUALLY MISSED GETTING
TONS OF KISSES AND HUGS
FROM MOTHER
AT HOM--

SIGH

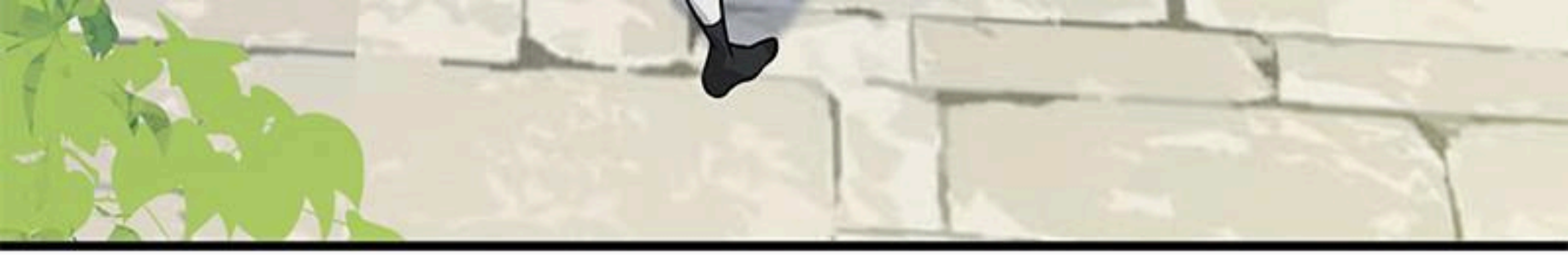
NO, NO!
WHAT AM I
THINKING...!



STEP

YOU SEEM A BIT UNSETTLED.

SWING







66,666 Years: Advent of the Dark Mage

THE DARK MAGE

Art • PASA / Adapt • TARU / Original • Hwabong

Ep. 15

SUSPICIOUS MOVEMENTS


OH, NOT AT ALL.
I'M HAPPY THAT I
WILL BE RETURNING
HOME TO GET
SOME REST.

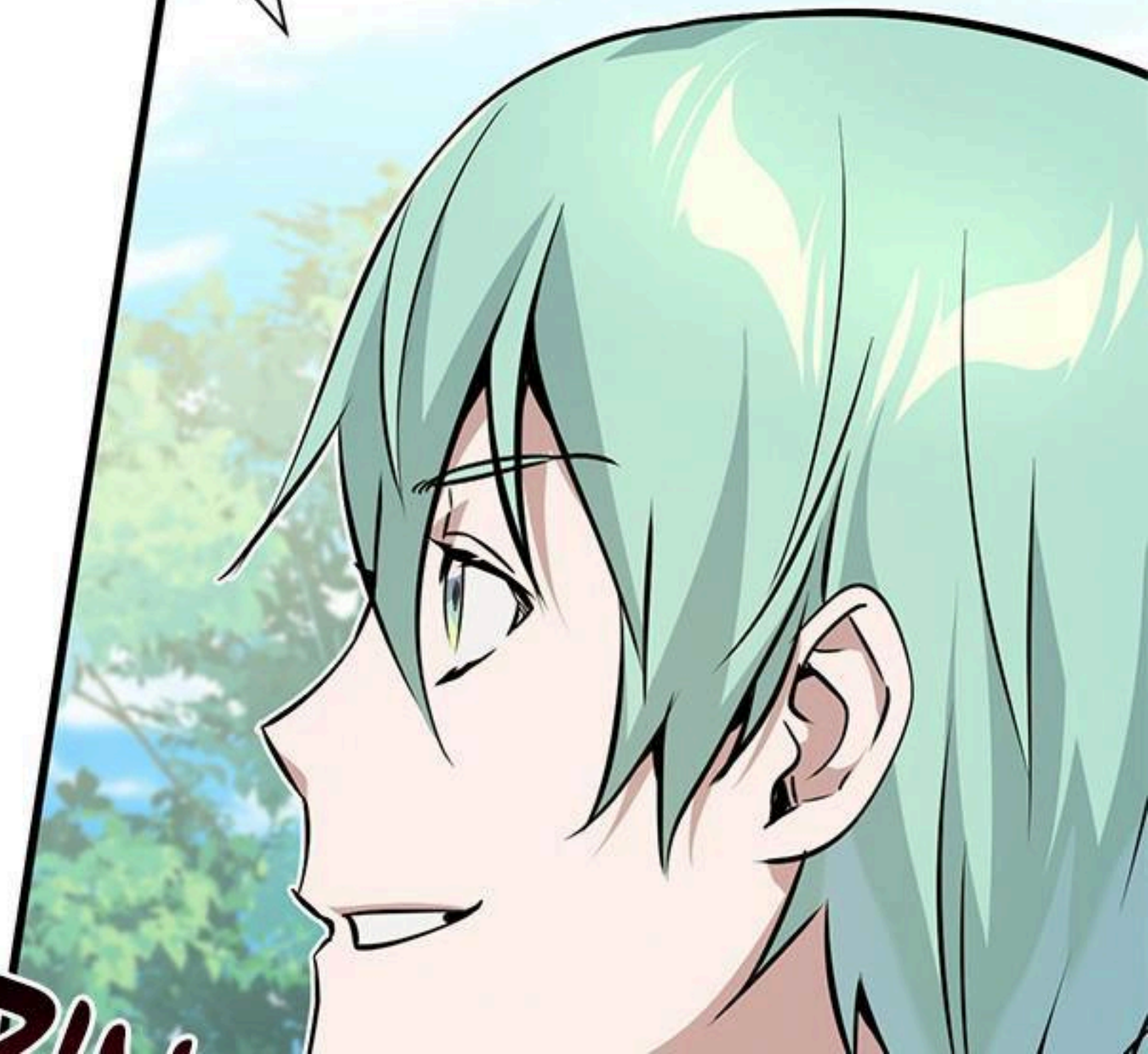


HAHA. IT'S A SHAME I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO SPEAK WITH YOU FOR LONG.

GLANCE



I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO IT TOO. QUITE DISAPPOINTING.




ORIN

YOU MAY
STAY FOR LONGER
IF YOU DESIRE.



NO THANK
YOU.



WHAT I DESIRE
RIGHT NOW IS TO RETURN
HOME AND REST FOR SOME
TIME. I AM EXHAUSTED
AFTER ALL...


...FOR THE
REASON YOU
PROBABLY KNOW
ALREADY.



HAHA.
I UNDERSTAND.






THE MAGICAL
SOCIETY TOOK NOTICE
OF YOU.




SHRUG
I... THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT TIME.

HAHA

I GUESS YOU DO KNOW ABOUT THE GIFT YOU POSSESS.






I DO.


BY THE WAY... WAS HIS NAME LENNON? I TAUGHT HIM A SMALL LESSON.

STEP

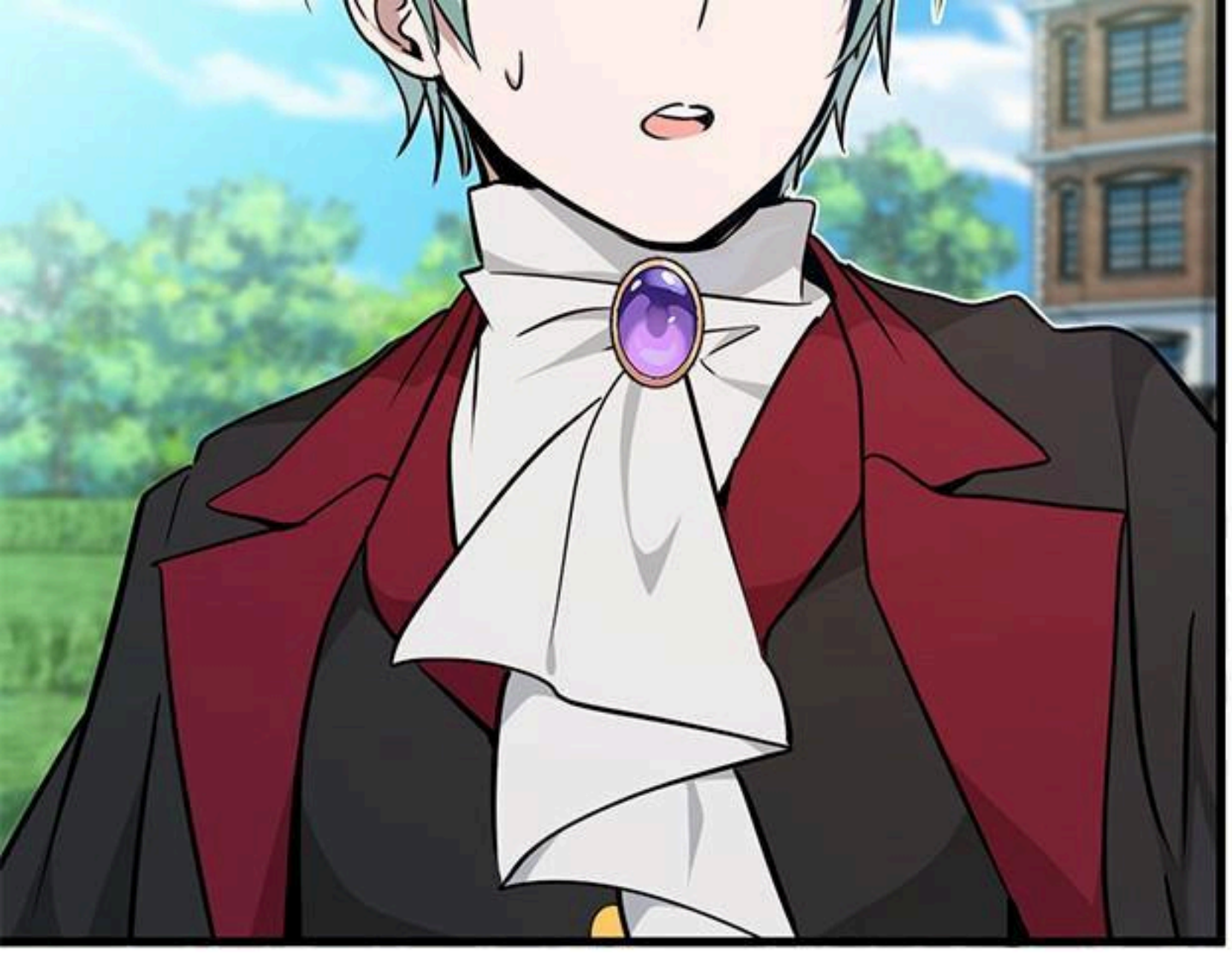
STEP

I EXPECTED AS MUCH.

HE LOOKED OUT OF IT SINCE YESTERDAY.

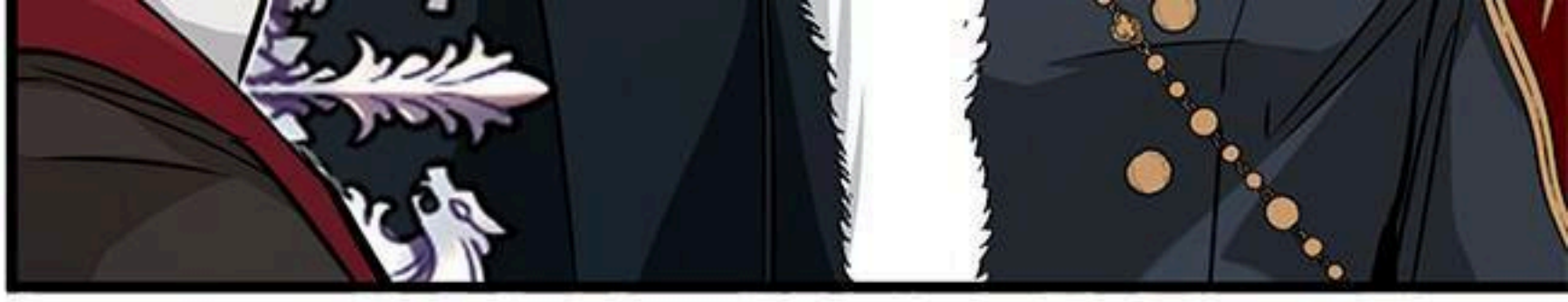
YOU'RE NOT ANGRY THAT I DID THAT TO YOUR SON?

HUH?



WHY WOULD I BE ANGRY? HE SIMPLY IS FACING THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS ACTIONS.





UGH...
SO THIS IS WHY
THE TWO PUNKS WERE
SO DESPERATE FOR
ATTENTION.



OH, LENNON SEEMED TO HAVE QUITE A TALENT FOR MAGIC.

HE MAY TURN OUT TO BE DECENT IF YOU TRAIN HIM.



BLUNT

NO. I KNOW OF
HIS POTENTIAL BETTER
THAN ANYONE ELSE

THAN ANYONE ELSE.
IT IS SIMPLY NOT
ENOUGH.



WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO LOSE, BY TEACHING HIM A LITTLE?

HE MAY HAVE POTENTIAL TO BE AS POWERFUL AS YOU SOME DAY...




...BUT CANNOT
BLOSSOM UNDER ALL
THIS PRESSURE.

IT MAY BE ALL
YOUR FAULT, MY LORD!

POINT



THEY BOTH HAVE
TAKEN THE WRONG PATH,
BECAUSE YOU BELITTLED
THEM FOR THEIR LACK
OF TALENT!

ARE YOU...

ALPH MAY BE
MEDIOCRE AT BEST, BUT

LENNON HAS GREAT POTENTIAL.

RUN




...TELLING ME I SIMPLY DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIS TALENT?

HOW CAN A KID LIKE HIM HAVE SO MUCH CONFIDENCE...

NOD

...IN MY SON'S
POTENTIAL THAT I COULD
NOT RECOGNIZE?

IT'S LIKE...





...I'M TALKING TO A MAGE OF INCOMPARABLE POWER.



PERHAPS
YOU MAY EVEN BE
ABLE TO MAKE A
BREAKTHROUGH,

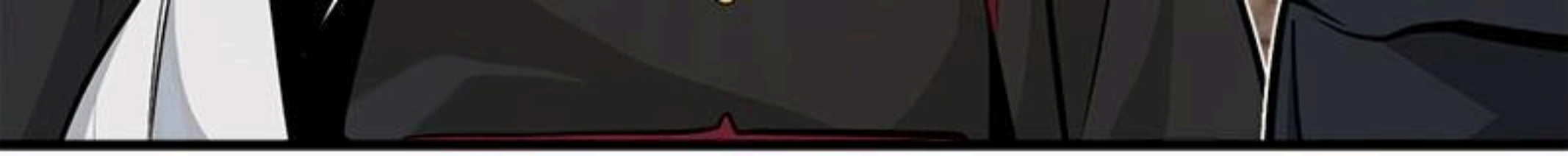
WITH THE HELP OF YOUR CHILD, PERSONALLY.



WAIT.
HOW DID YOU...

JAMIE! TIME TO DEPART!





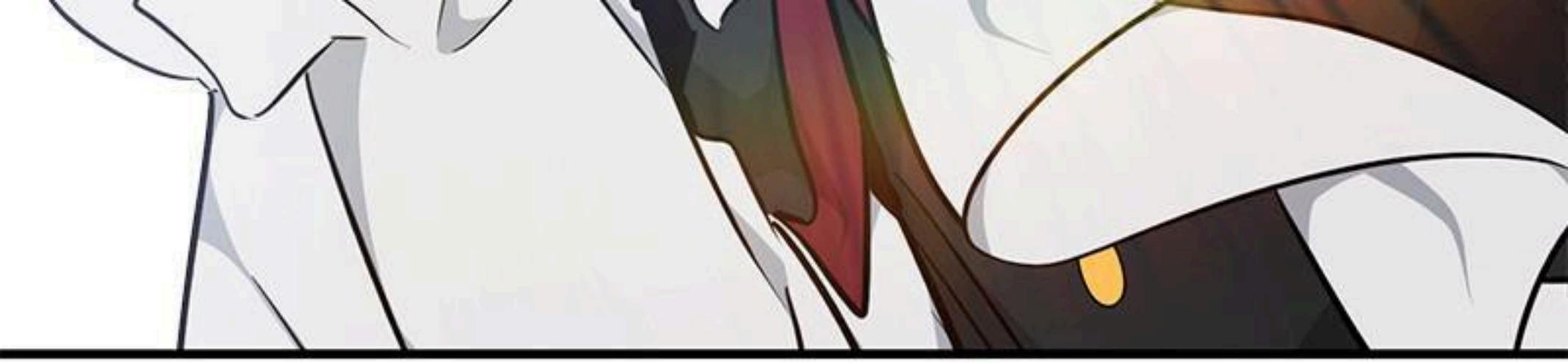
DON'T PUT TOO MUCH WEIGHT ON WHAT I SAID. THINK OF THEM AS RANDOM REMARKS A CHILD MADE!

BYE!

BEA

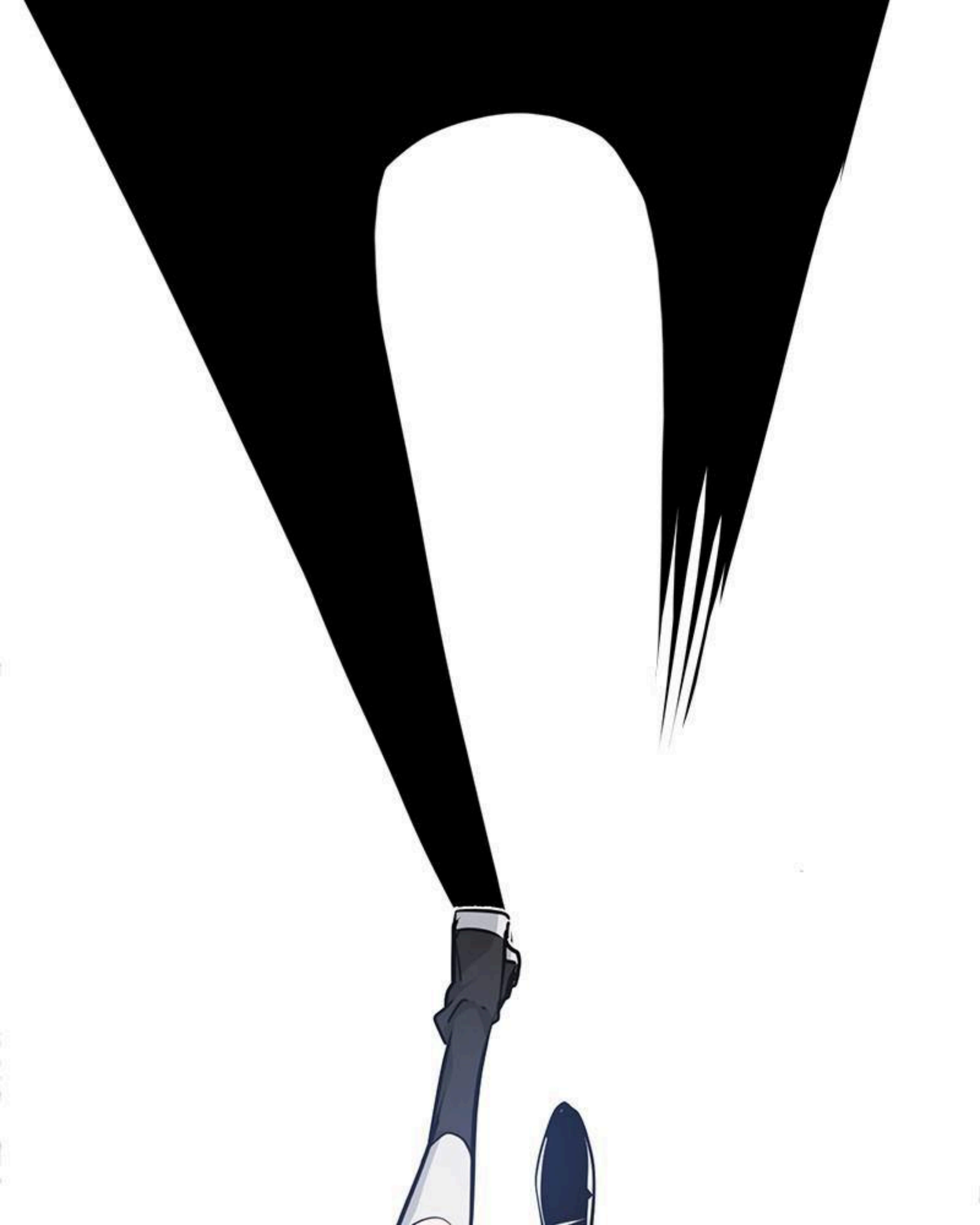
SLAM







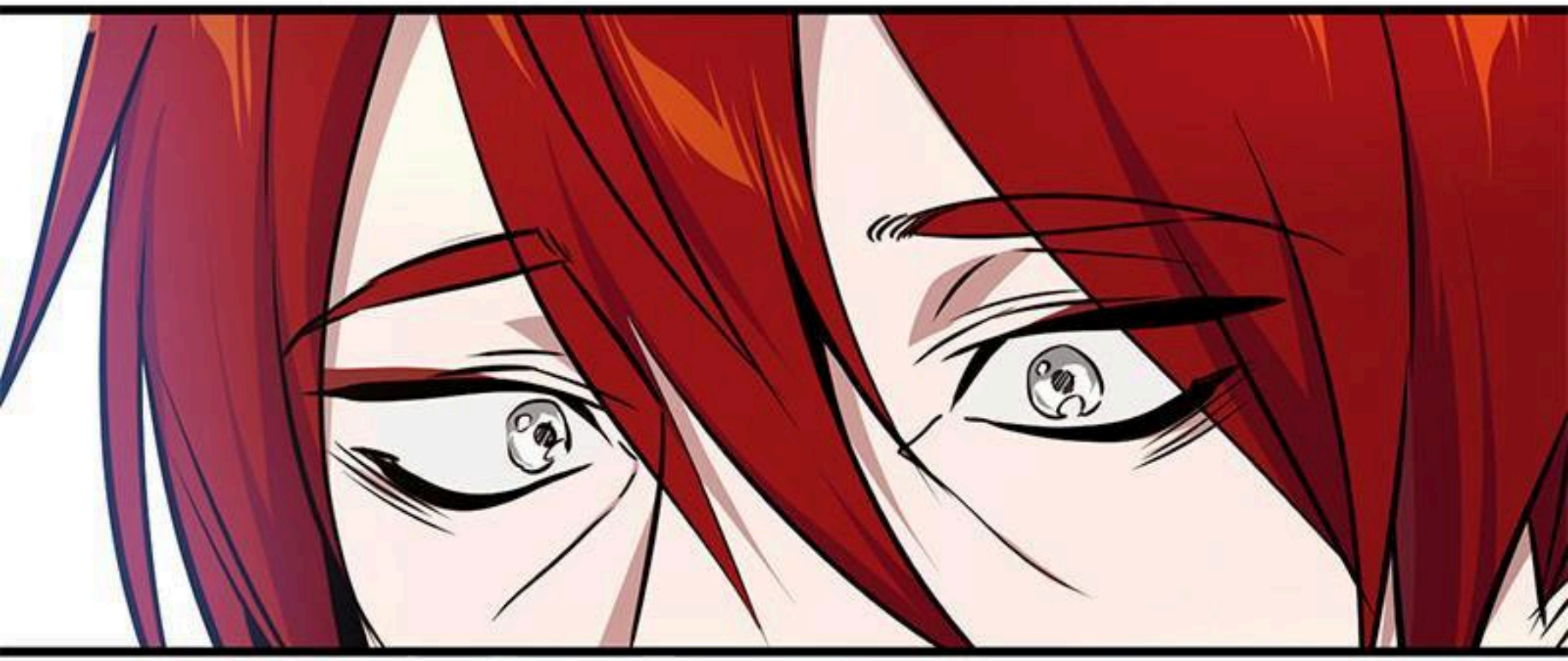
47



TAP

TAP

TAP

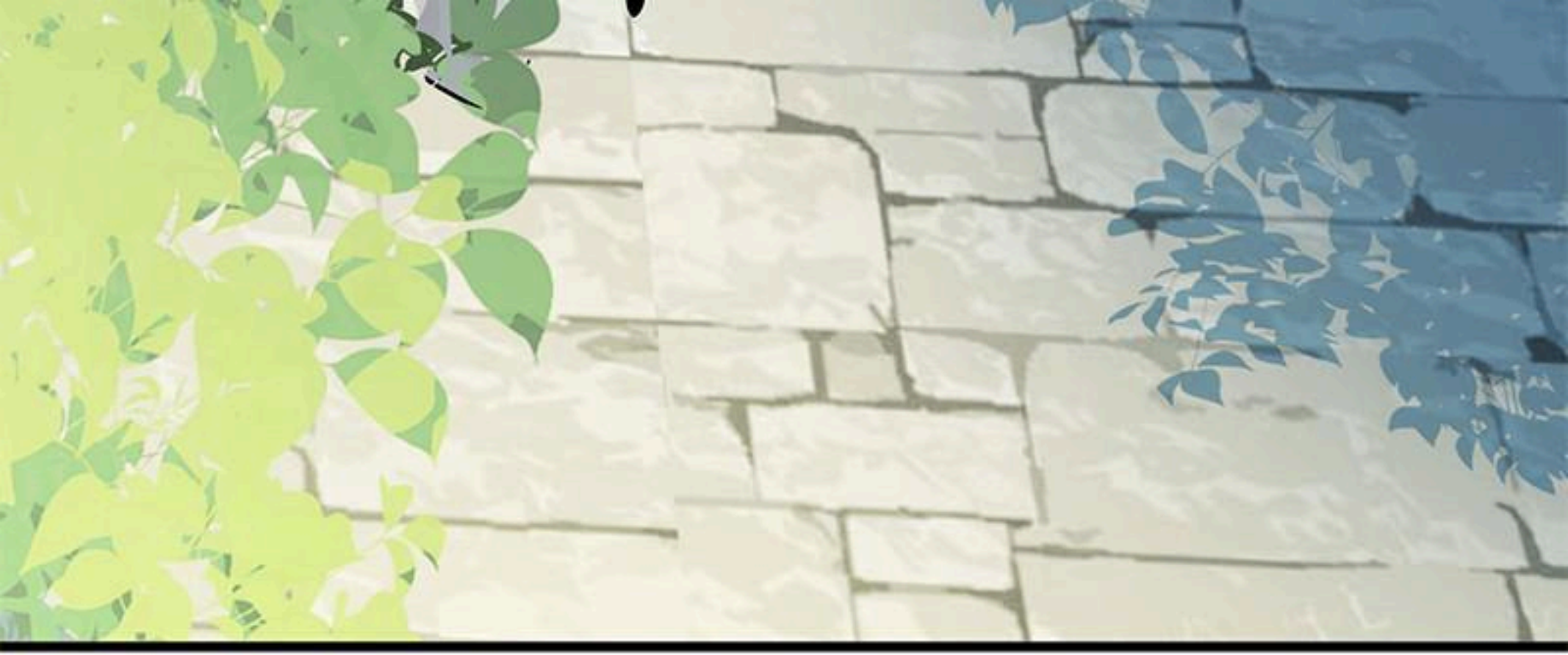


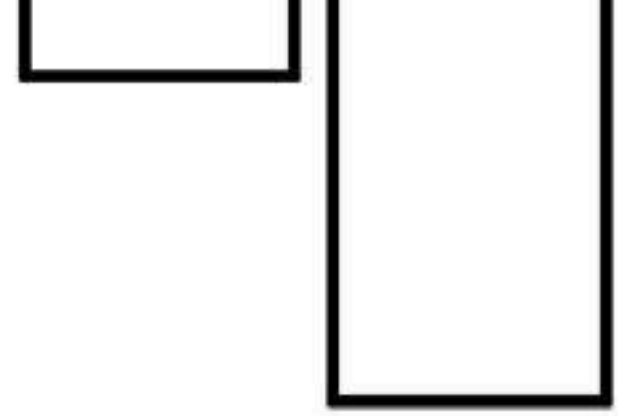
SWISH



THAT WAS

...THAT WAS
BITTERSWEET.



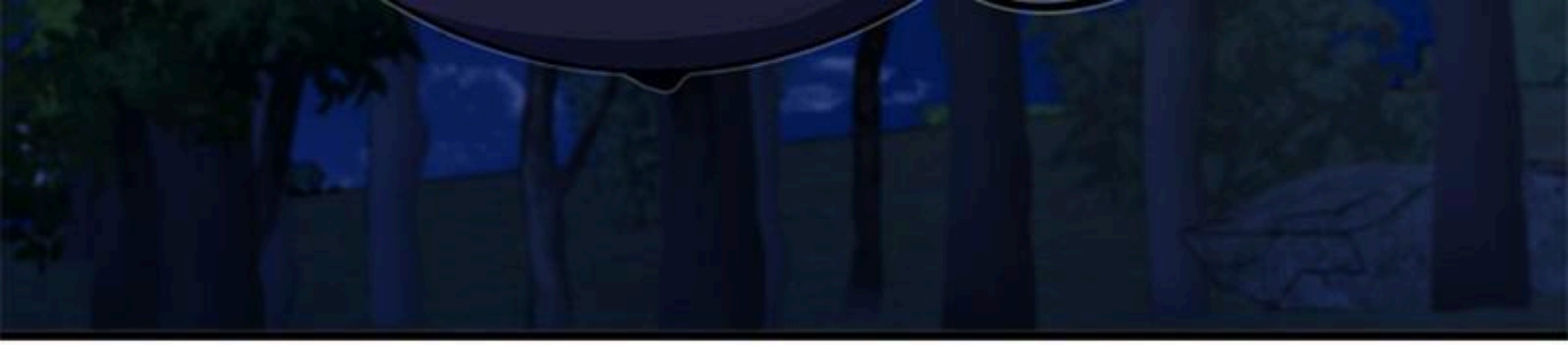


SWING

SWING



PEEP!!



RUST

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

SHOUT

SHOUT

NOW, WILL YOU
HURRY UP?





SWOOSH

WHAT TOOK YOU
SO LONG?

AZARD WAS
TAKING TIME GETTING
UP FROM HIS

SLUMBER.

MY-MY APOLOGIES, SIR.



WHATEVER. TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE FOUND OUT.



YES, SIR!

YES, SIR!

THE ORDER OF
ZENITH HAS BEEN
SHOWING GENEROSITY
BY CONDUCTING CHARITY

BY CONDUCTING CHARITY
WORK IN VARIOUS
PARTS OF HEISS.



THEY WON THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE BY GIVING FOOD TO THE HUNGRY AND PROVIDING SHELTER TO THE HOMELESS...

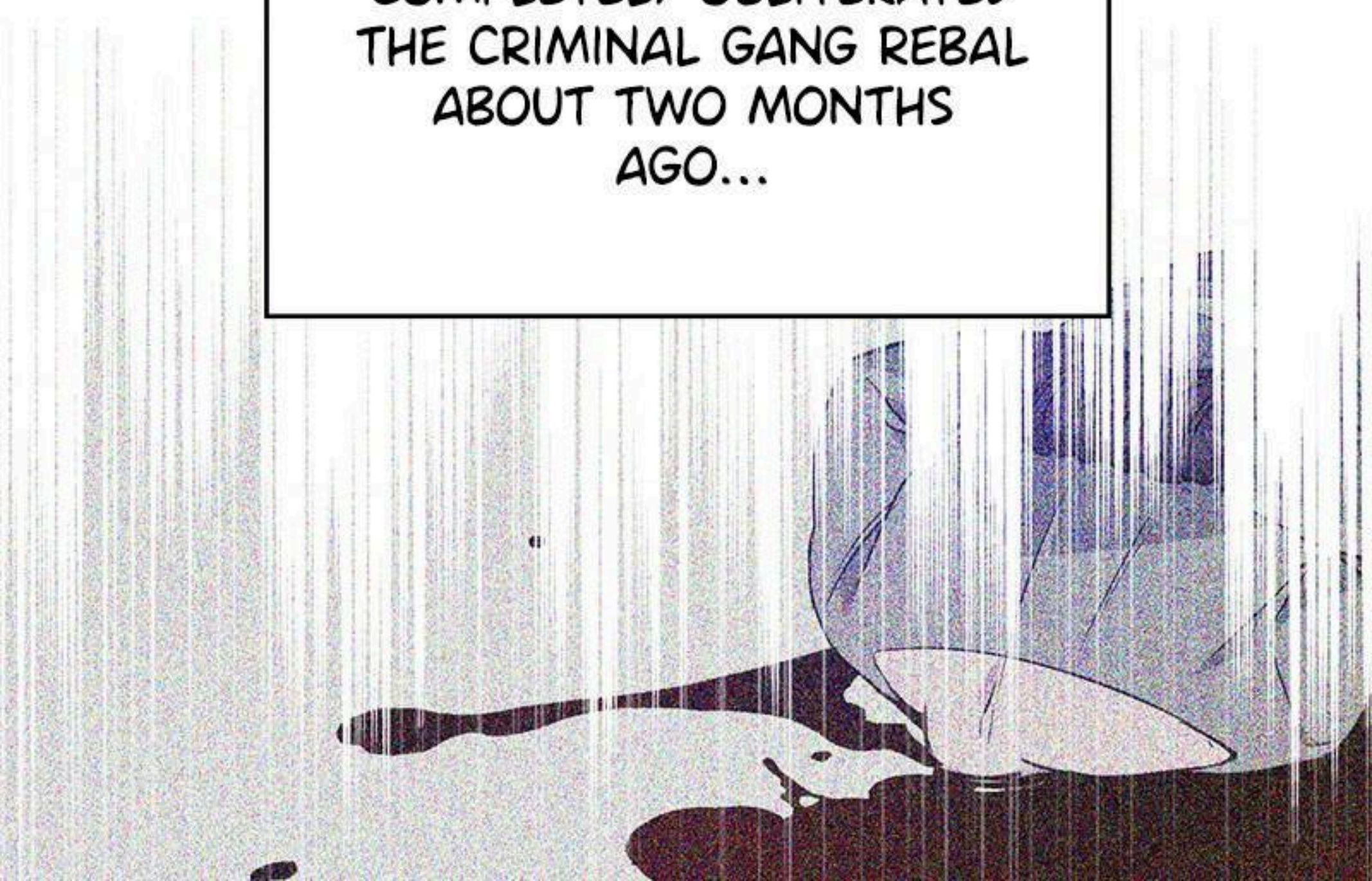
UNEASY

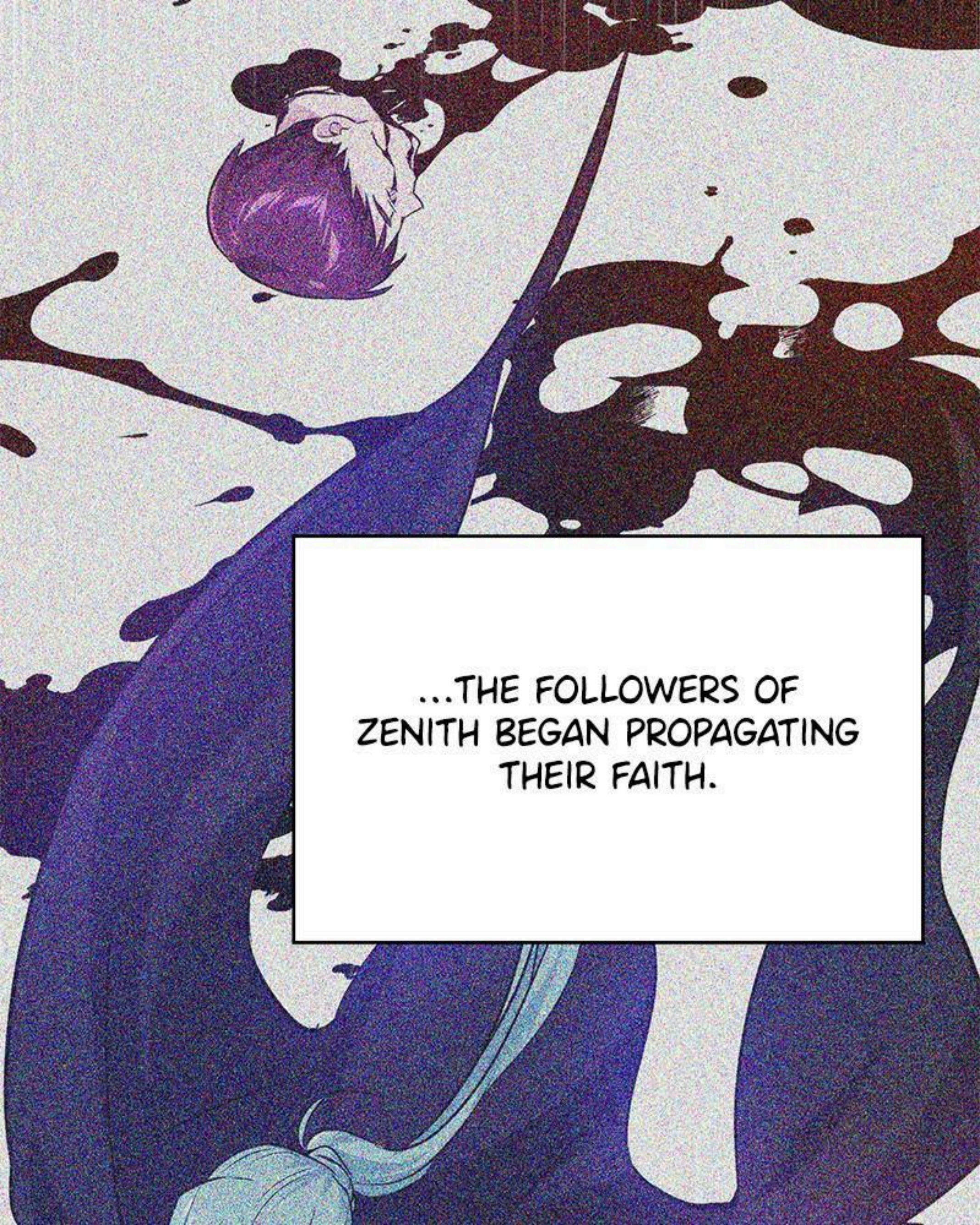
...AND IT IS
SAID THEY RECENTLY
STARTED OPERATING
AN ORPHANAGE
AS WELL.

EXACTLY HOW
LONG HAVE THEY
BEEN DOING THINGS
LIKE THIS?

MOST LIKELY
AFTER THE DISBANDMENT
OF REBAL.

AFTER EARL WELTON COMPLETELY OBLITERATED THE CRIMINAL GANG REBAL ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO...




...THE FOLLOWERS OF ZENITH BEGAN PROPAGATING THEIR FAITH.

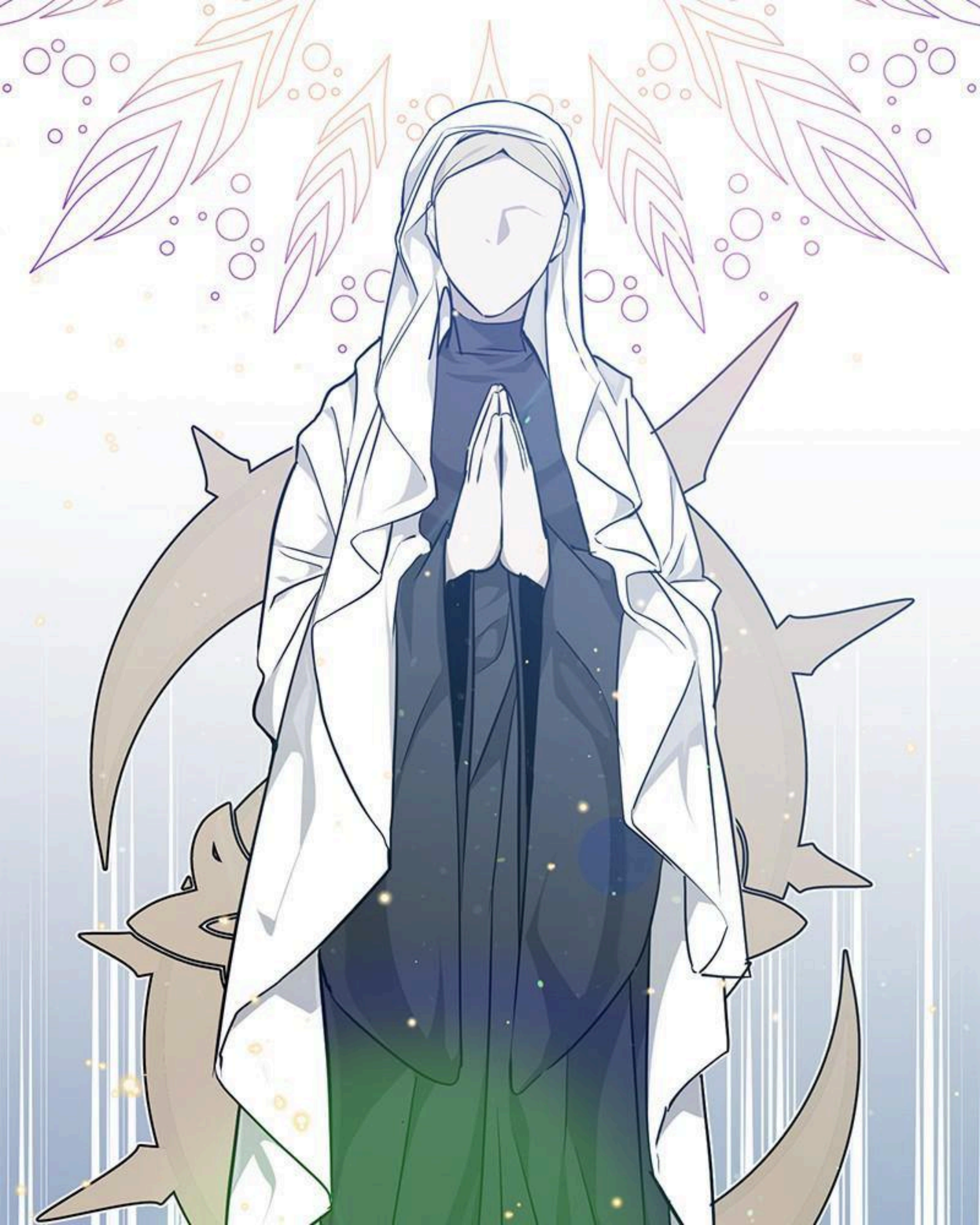


THEY PAID VISITS TO
THE PEASANTS OF THE ESTATE,
AND SPREAD THE WILL OF
GOD WHILE OFFERING
SERVICES AT NO COST.

AT FIRST,
THE PEOPLE OF THE
ESTATE PAID NO HEED.

HOWEVER,
AS VOLUNTEER AND
CHARITY SERVICES CONTINUED,
PEOPLE OF THE ESTATE
GRADUALLY ACCEPTED
THE FAITH IN ZENITH
ONE BY ONE...

...AND
BECAME DEVOUT
FOLLOWERS.



THAT IS HOW THE FAITH IN ZENITH ROSE TO A REMARKABLY PROMINENT POSITION WITHIN HEISS.

FAITH IN ZENITH IS
REGARDED AS THE MOST
MERCIFUL AND RESPECTABLE
RELIGION IN ALL OF HEISS,
AT THE MOMENT.




DA DUN


WHAT...?

ZENITH...!
THERE IS JUST NO WAY IN HELL THAT BASTARD WOULD DO SOMETHING FOR THE SAKE OF ANOTHER BEING!!

GNASH



YOU TWO!
DO YOU THINK WAR
AND PEACE CAN COEXIST
WITH ONE ANOTHER?


TURN

HUH...? NO, SIR.



?

OH, WAIT.

I THINK,
HOWEVER,
THERE CAN BE A
CORRELATION.

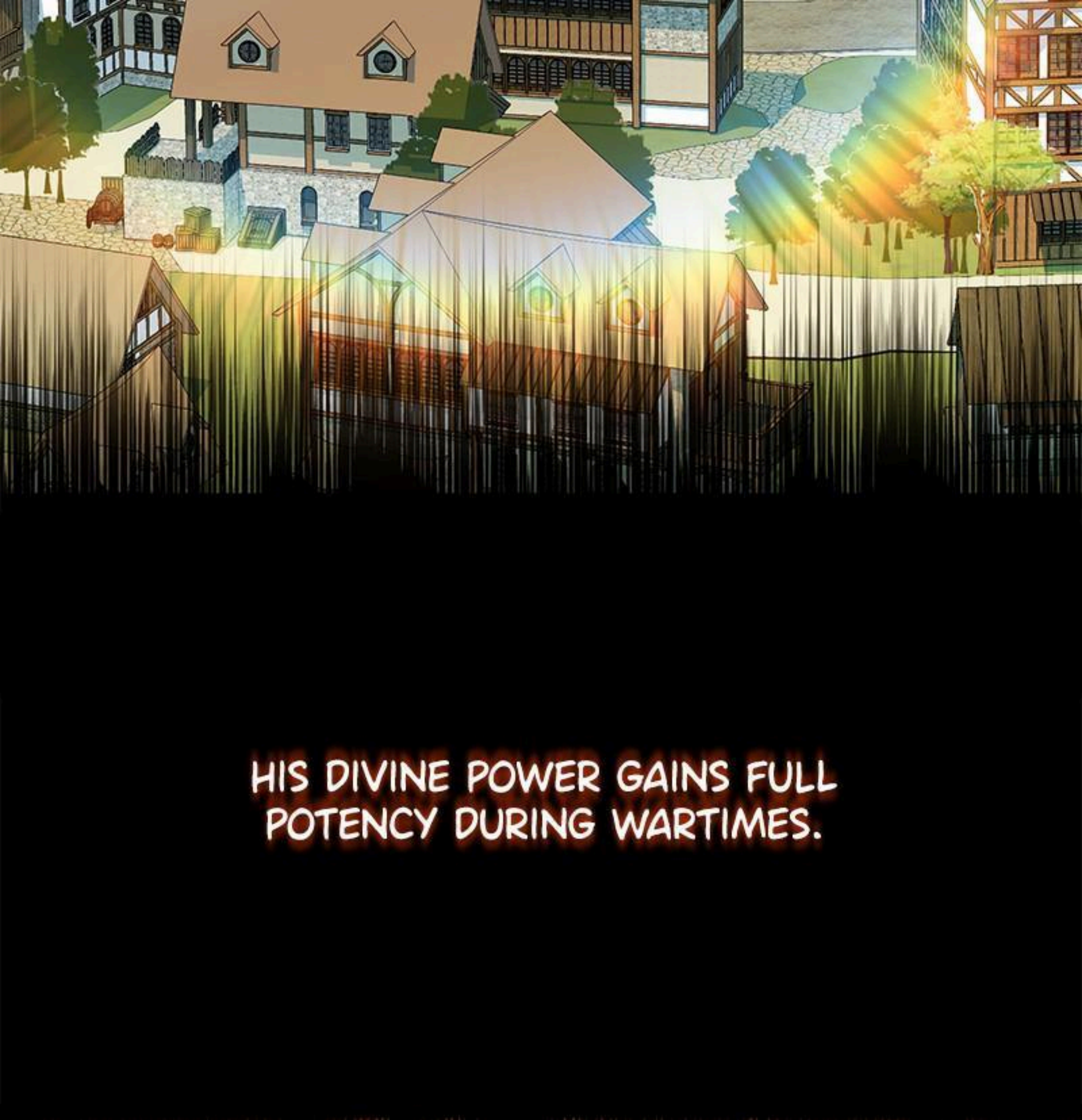


YES. THAT IS
WHAT ZENITH STANDS
FOR.

PEACE THAT IS ESTABLISHED ON TOP OF BLOOD AND DESTRUCTION.





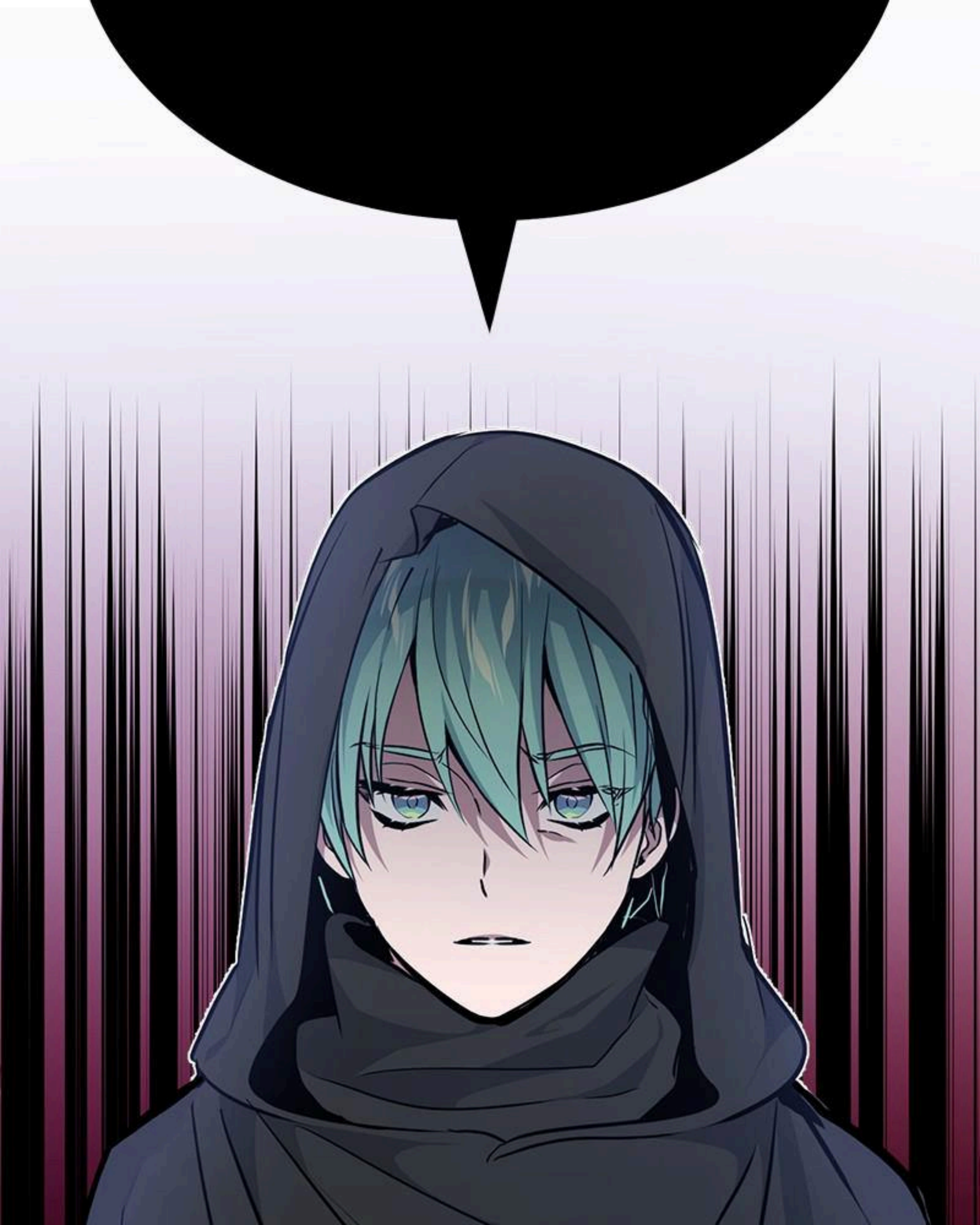


HIS DIVINE POWER GAINS FULL POTENCY DURING WARTIMES.





SPEAKING OF WHICH,
WHAT HIS FOLLOWERS ARE
CURRENTLY DOING OUTRIGHT
CONTRADICTS HIS NATURE!

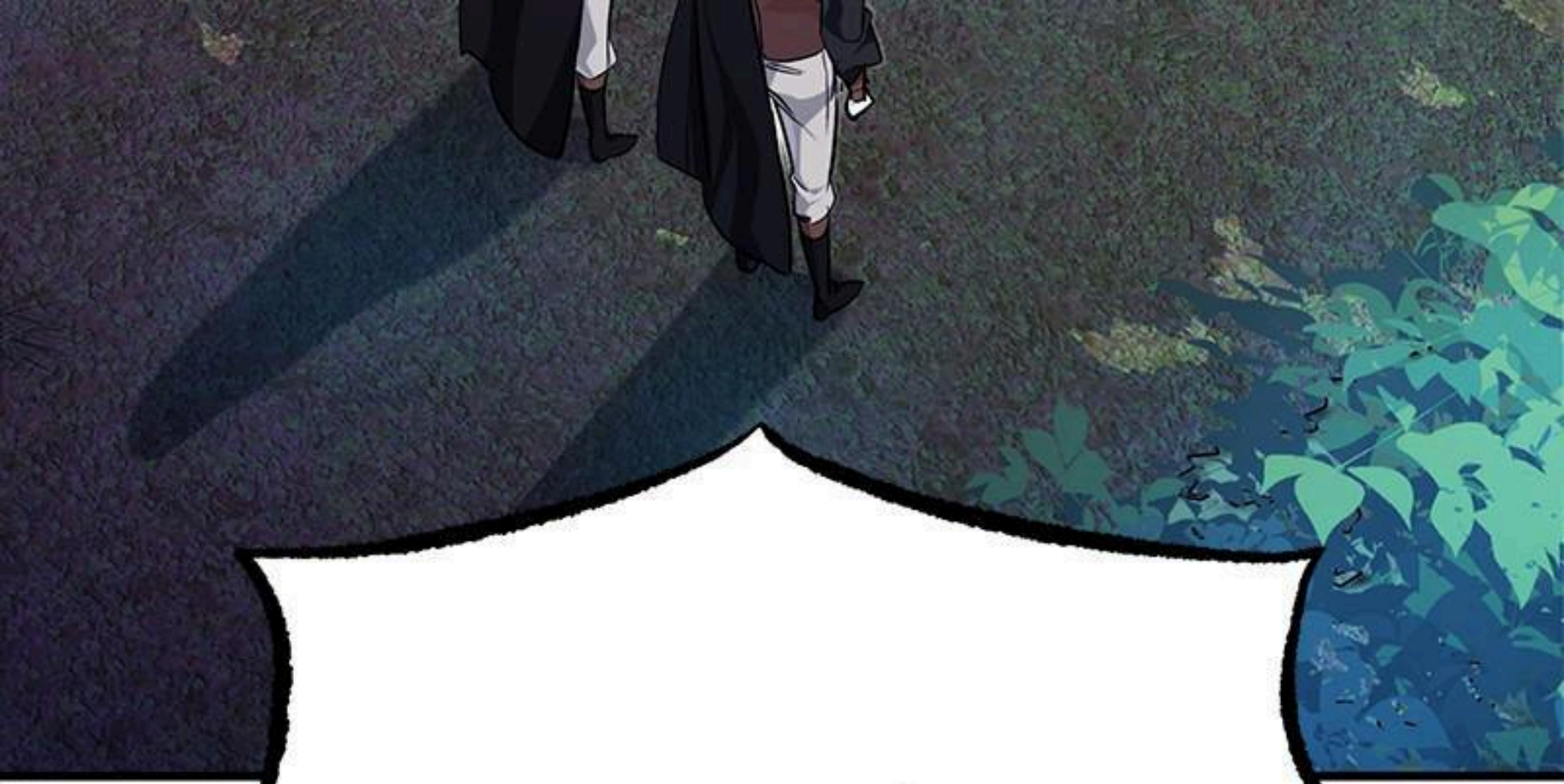




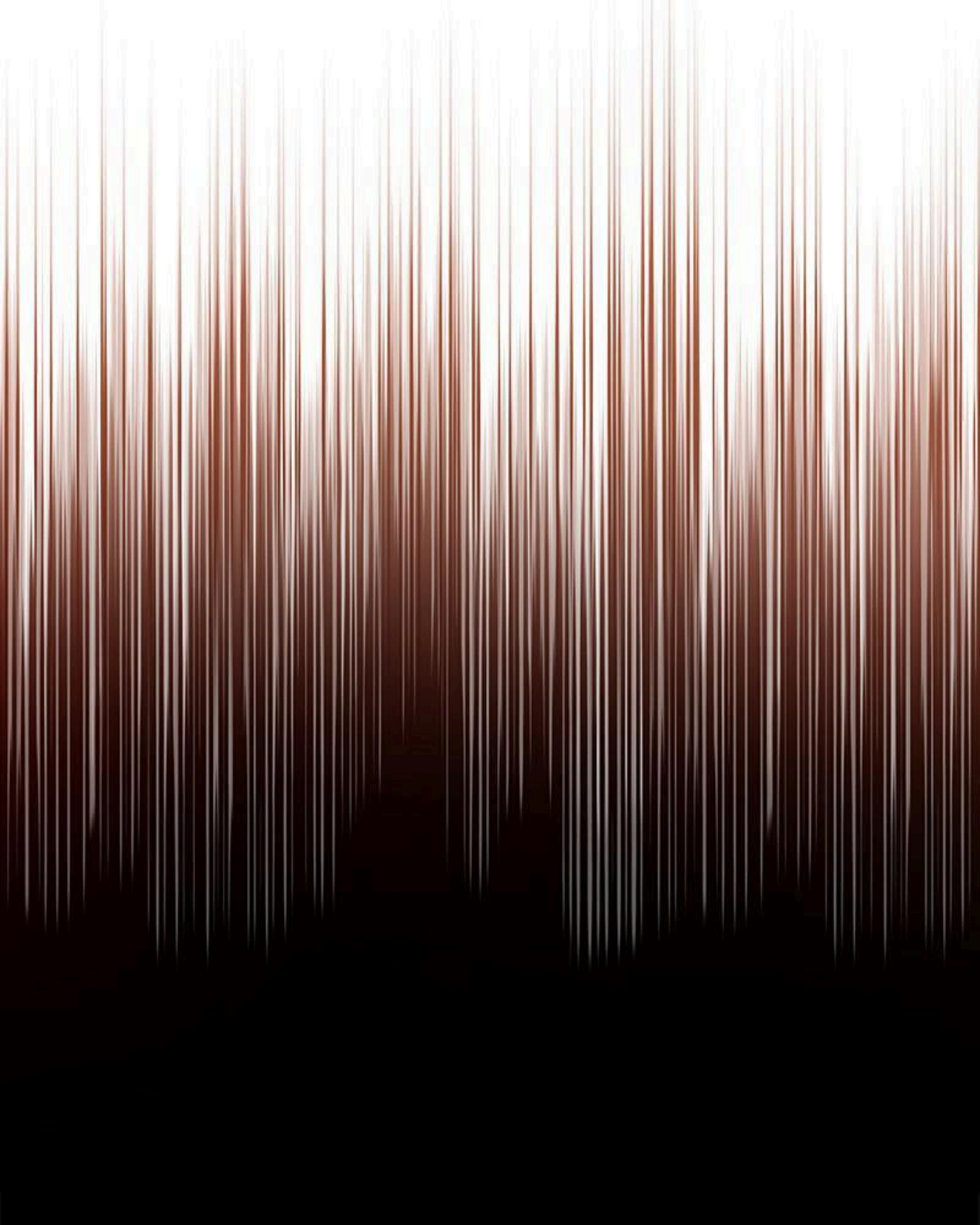
THEY MUST BE

THEY MUST BE DEVISING A SCHEME BEHIND ALL THOSE GOOD DEEDS.

FIND OUT WHAT THEY'RE UP TO.


YES, SIR!

I WILL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF WHATEVER YOU'RE PLANNING, ZENITH!




YOU'RE WORKING HARD, RICKY.

THANK YOU, BROTHER! THIS IS THE LEAST I COULD DO.

ORPHANAGE RUN BY
THE ORDER OF ZENITH

THIS IS HEAVEN
COMPARED TO WHEN I HAD

TO BEG FOR MONEY AND GOT CONSTANTLY BEAT UP!

RICKY...



YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT. BUT THINGS ARE ONLY GOING TO GET BETTER.

OKAY!

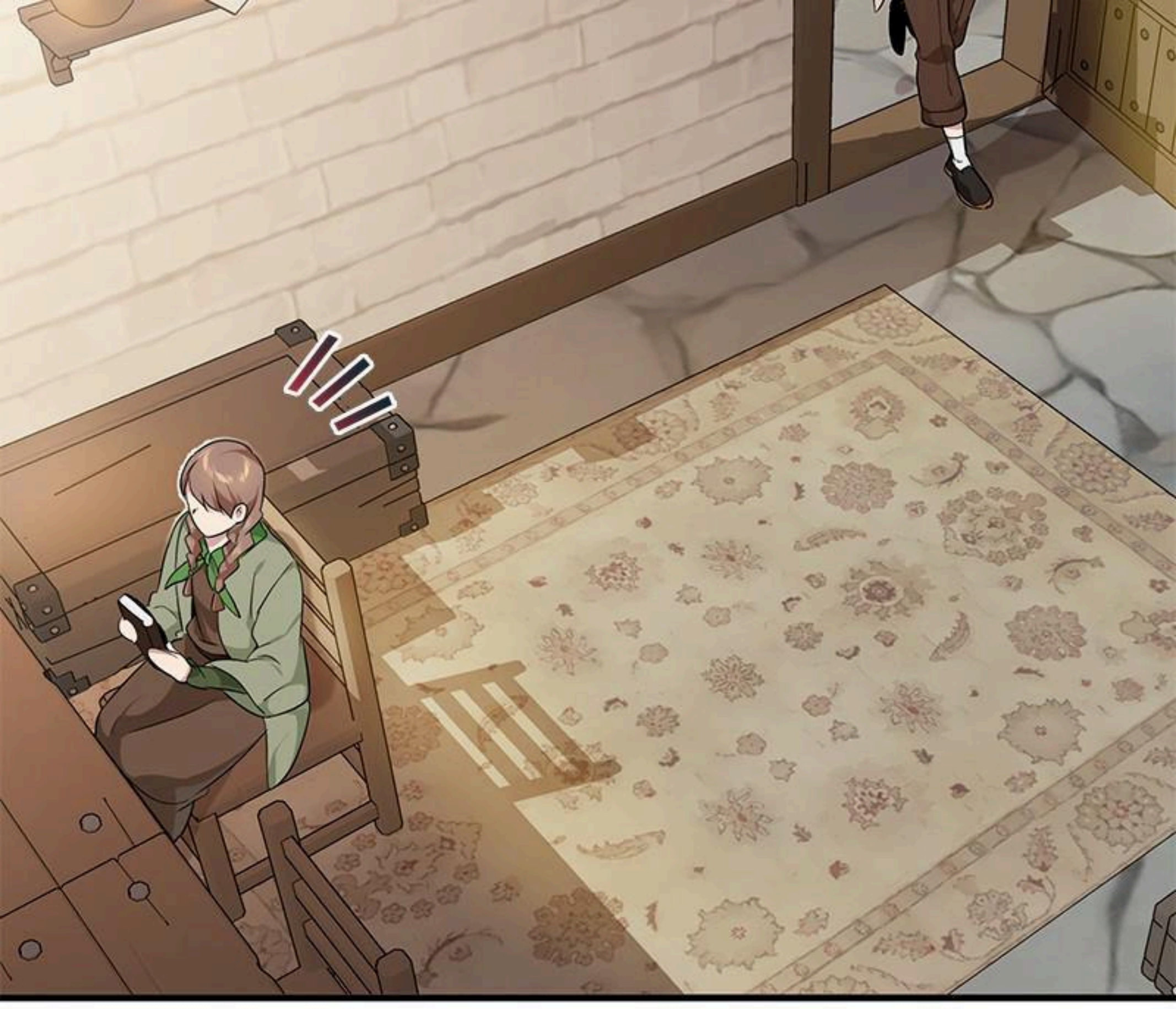


SINCE I HAVE
BEEN ACCEPTED INTO THE
ORPHANAGE ABOUT A MONTH
AND A HALF AGO, MY LIFE HAS

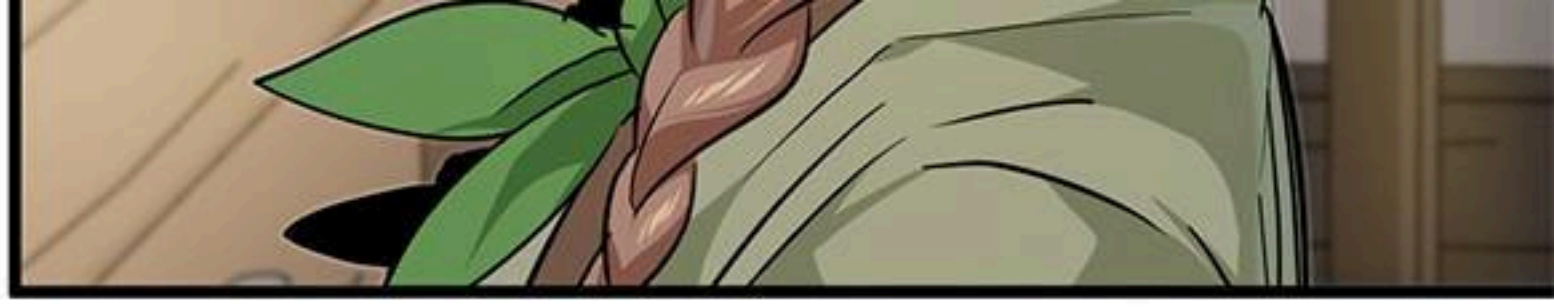
BEEN FULL OF HAPPINESS.

MY LITTLE SISTER
AND I WOULD HAVE STARVED
TO DEATH ON THE STREET
IF THAT WASN'T
THE CASE.






BROTHER!
YOU'RE HERE!
SWISH




THAT'S RIGHT.
YOUR BROTHER IS HERE!




OH! IT'S
THIS WAY.
TURN



MY LITTLE SISTER
ANNA IS SIGHTLESS.

WHEN OUR
PARENTS FOUND OUT
THAT SHE WAS
BLIND...

...THEY ABANDONED US
AND RAN AWAY.

I DID ANYTHING
AND EVERYTHING I COULD
TO PROTECT MY SISTER AND
FOR US TO SURVIVE...

...BUT LIFE WAS HARD
ON THE STREETS AND THE
GROWN-UPS WERE
COLDHEARTED.

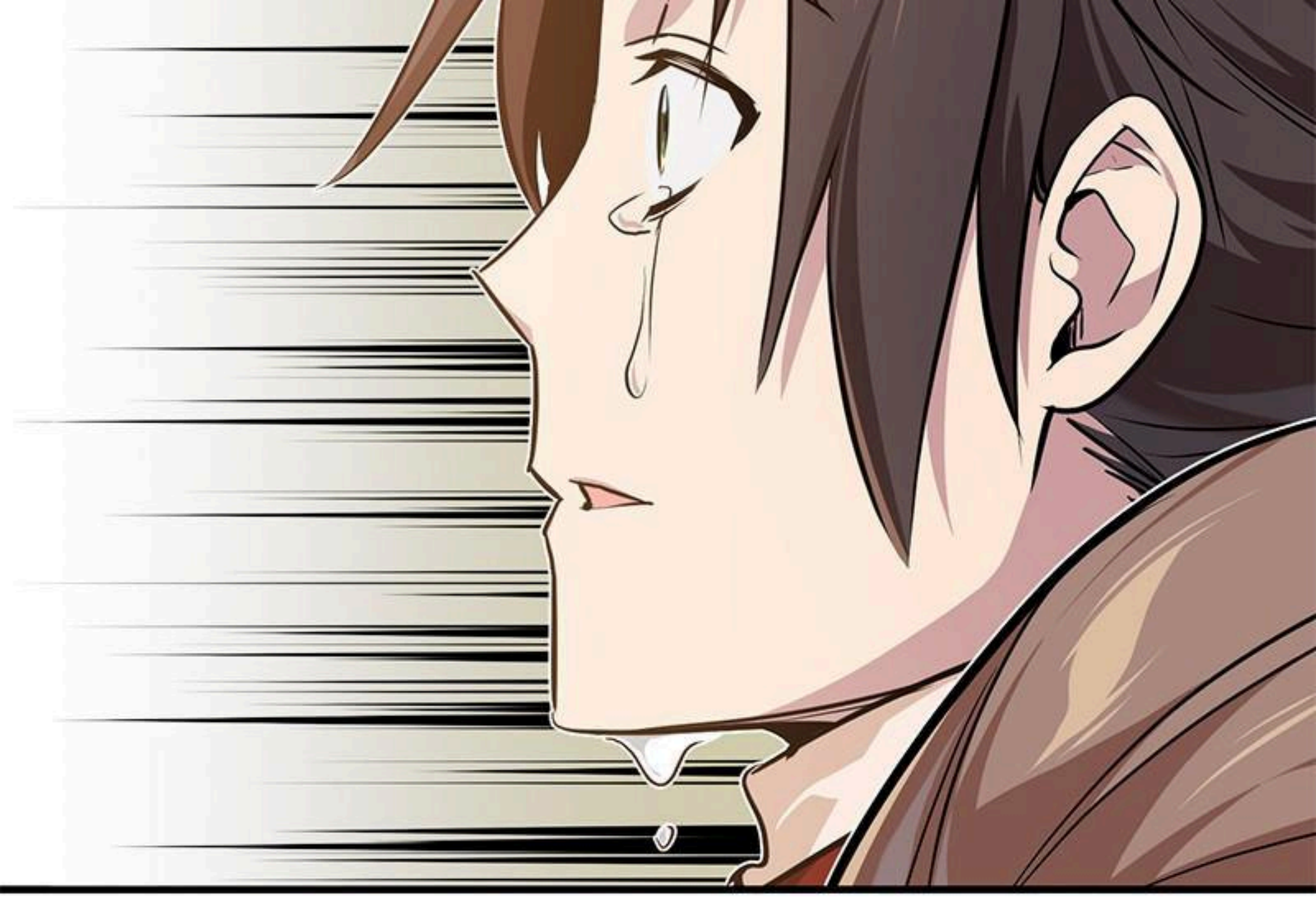




NO ONE CARED
ENOUGH OR BOTHERED
TO HELP...

...UNTIL WE WERE
SHOWN KINDNESS FOR
THE FIRST TIME EVER.





A GOD HAS SHOWN
HIS GRACE.

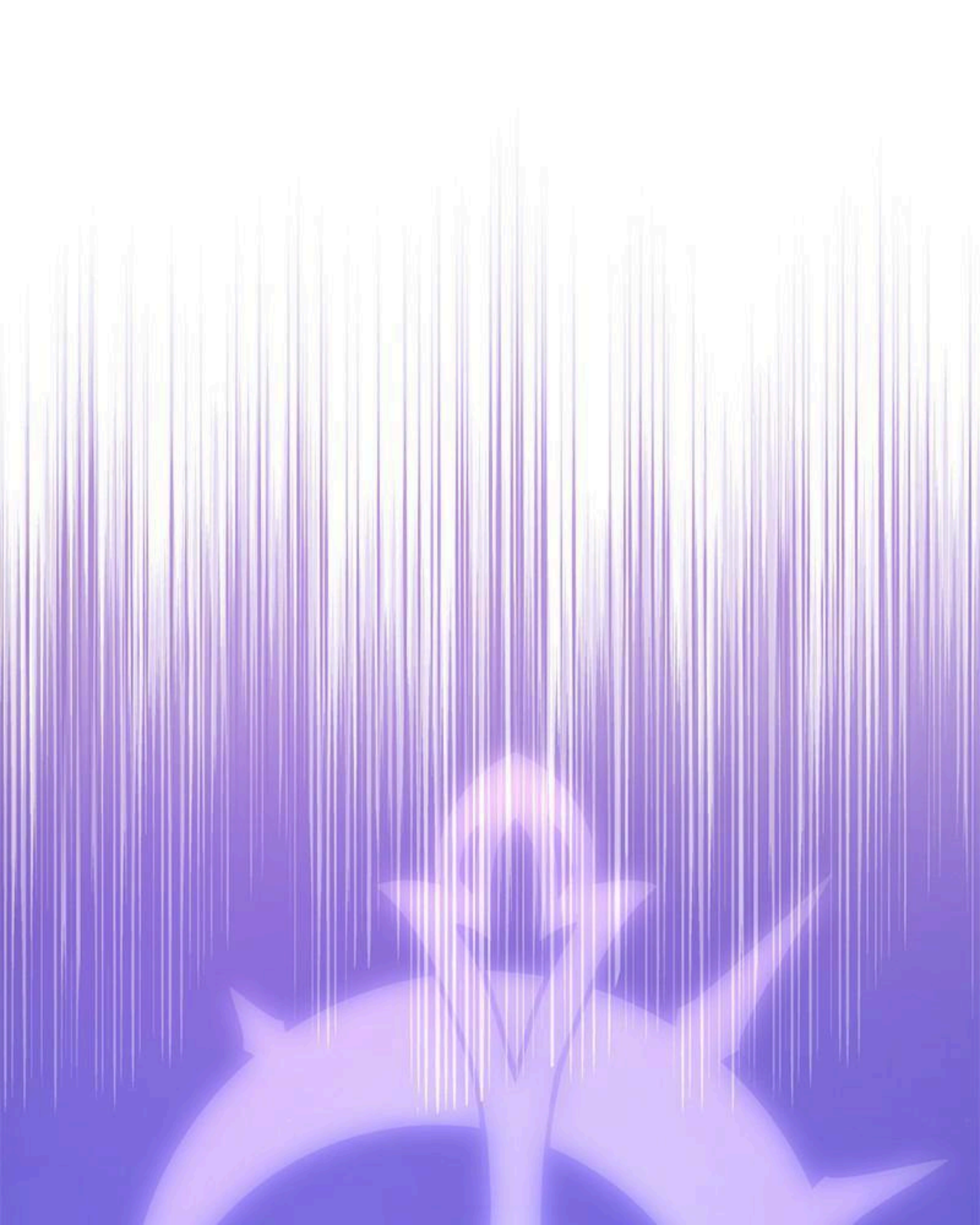





THAT DAY,
MY SISTER AND I
WERE GIVEN NEW
LIVES.

NOW IT IS MY
DREAM TO BECOME A
PRIEST OF GOD...

...TO WIDELY SPREAD THIS
JOY AND MIRACLE THAT HAPPENED
IN MY LIFE!





RICKY! ANNA!
DID YOU GUYS HEAR
THE NEWS?

WHAT NEWS?

DASH



REMEMBER SHINNO?
HE WAS ALLEGEDLY
CHOSEN BY GOD.





SO HE WILL DEPART TO
THE HEADQUARTERS NEXT
WEEK TO HEED TO
THE CALLING!


WHAT?
SURPRISED
SHINNO...

WILL BECOME
A PRIEST?





I WAS SCOLDED BY A CHILD...?



TO BE CONTINUED

JC MEDIA

background by Lido
coloring by MUO2
editing & design by cafu
production & execution by minkyeong kim



WOOSH

FLAP



WE'RE ALMOST HERE. TAKE ME DOWN.

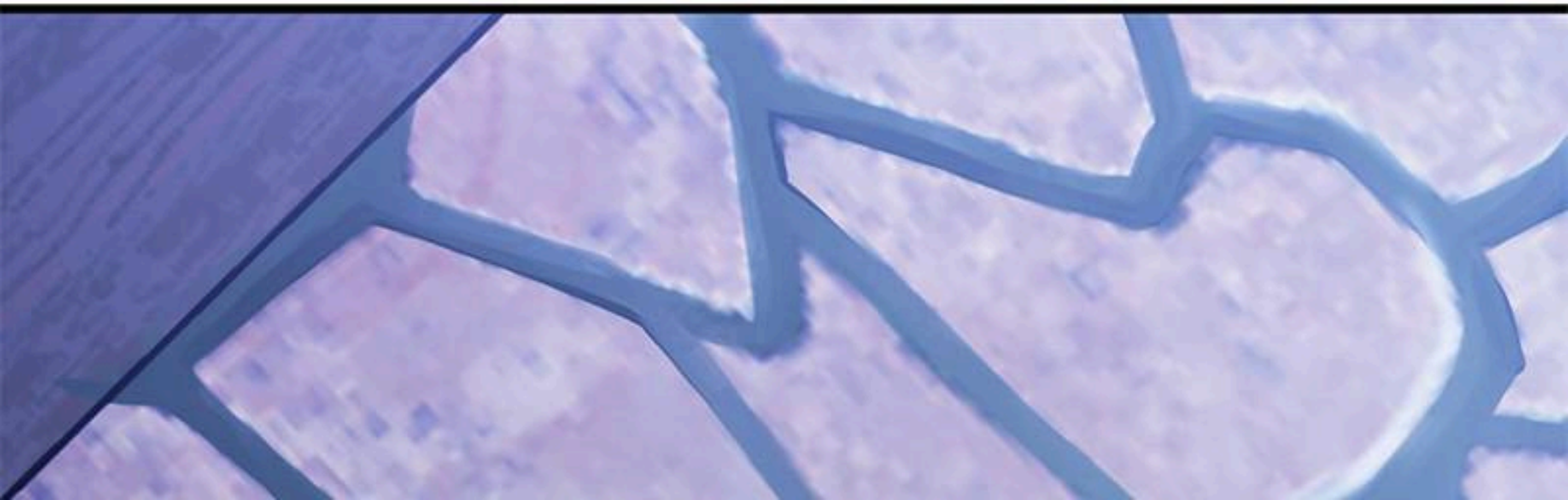


PEEP!


HUH?


A... PERSON?



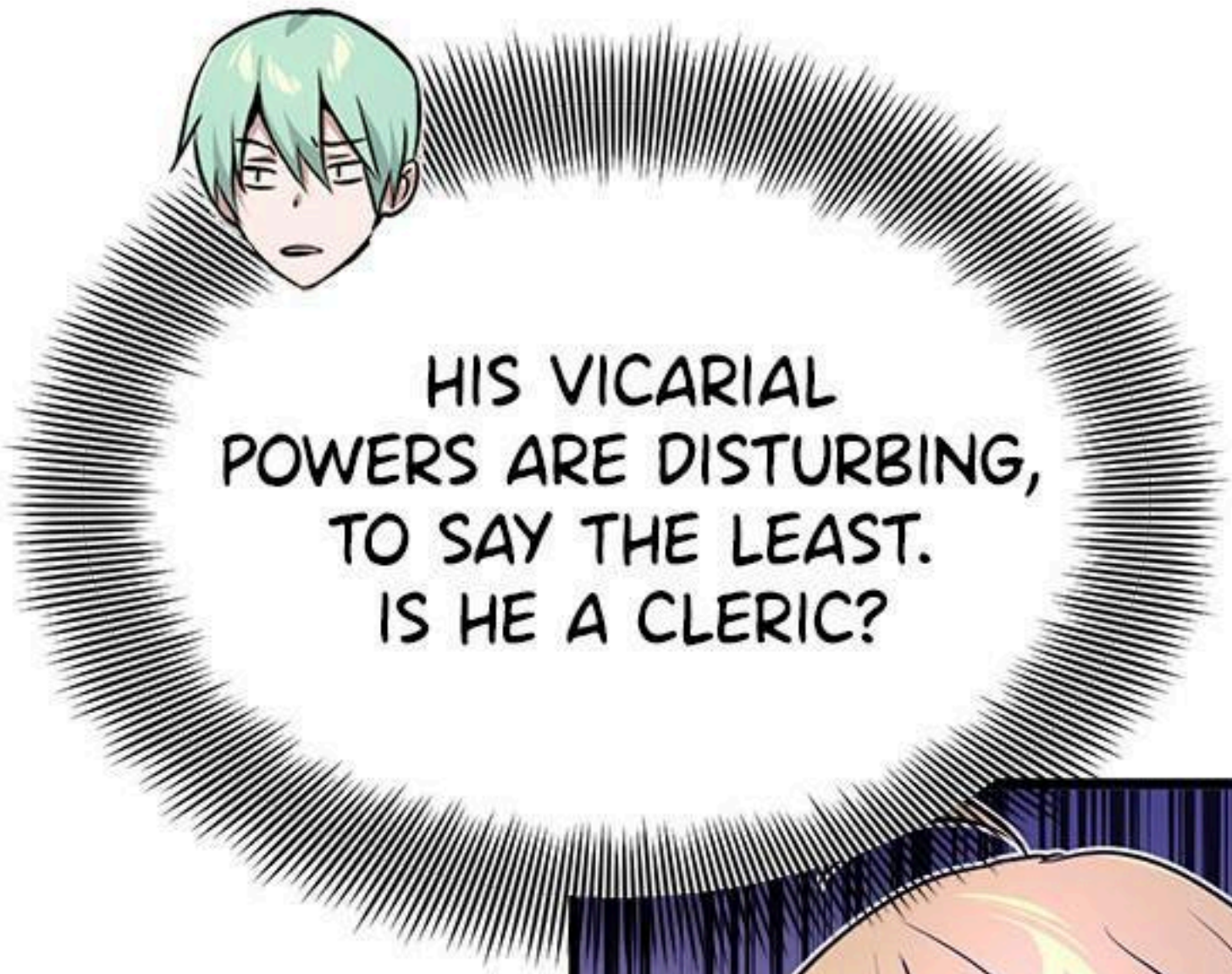



TAP

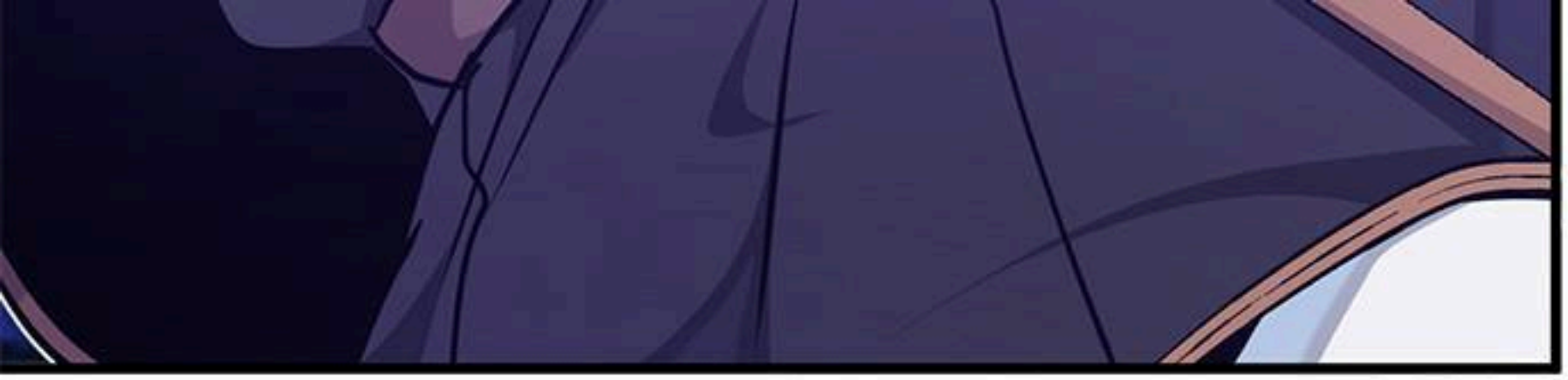
WHAT
IS... THIS AURA
SURROUNDING
HIM?

TAP




HIS VICARIAL
POWERS ARE DISTURBING,
TO SAY THE LEAST.
IS HE A CLERIC?

NO.
A HIGH-RANKING
PRIEST... PERHAPS
A PALADIN.




WHAT THE HECK
IS A PALADIN DOING
ON THE STREET LIKE
THIS, ANYWAYS?




WHAT AN ANNOYANCE.


STEP
STEP

SHOULD I KILL HIM?

TAP TAP


TAP
TAP



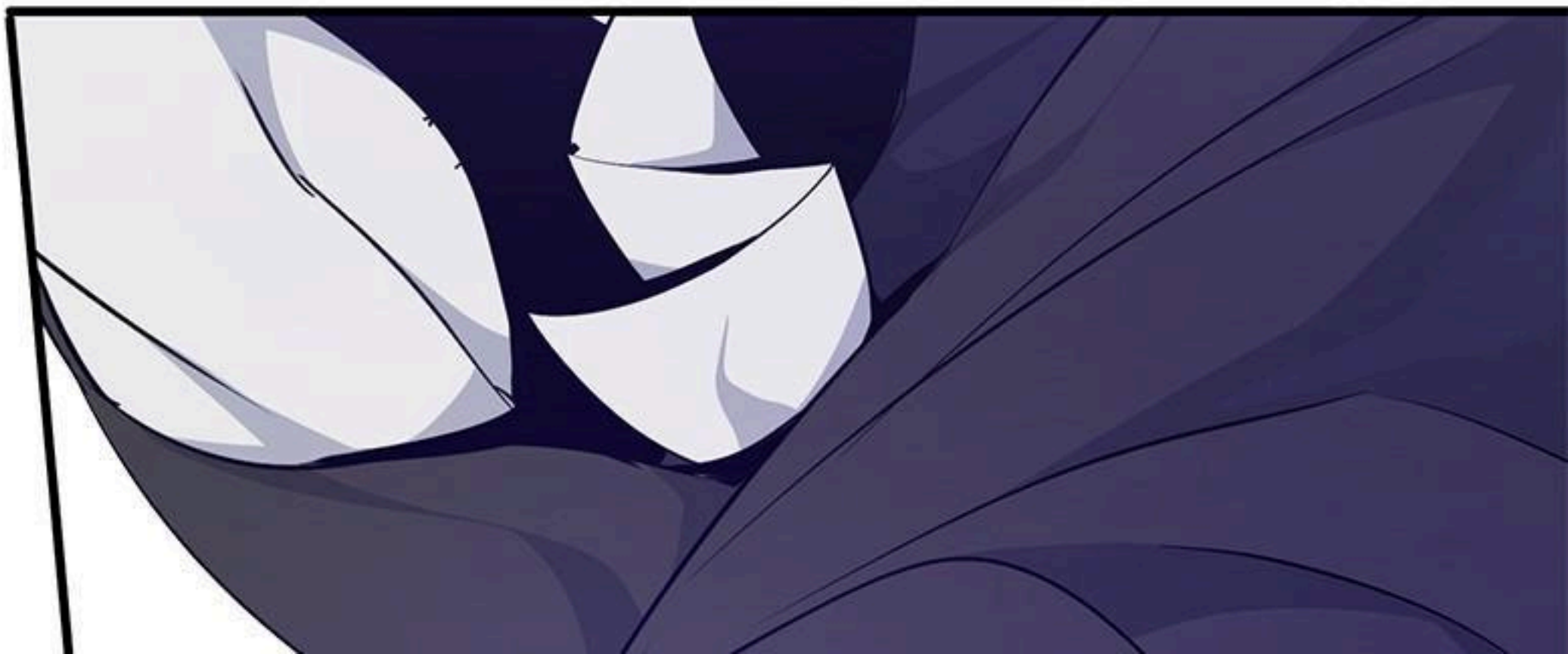
GRAB



WHA-WHAT THE!

PEEP!!

STARTLED



I...


TIGHT




WHAT?




I AM...


OKAY!
TIME TO REVEAL
WHO YOU ARE!



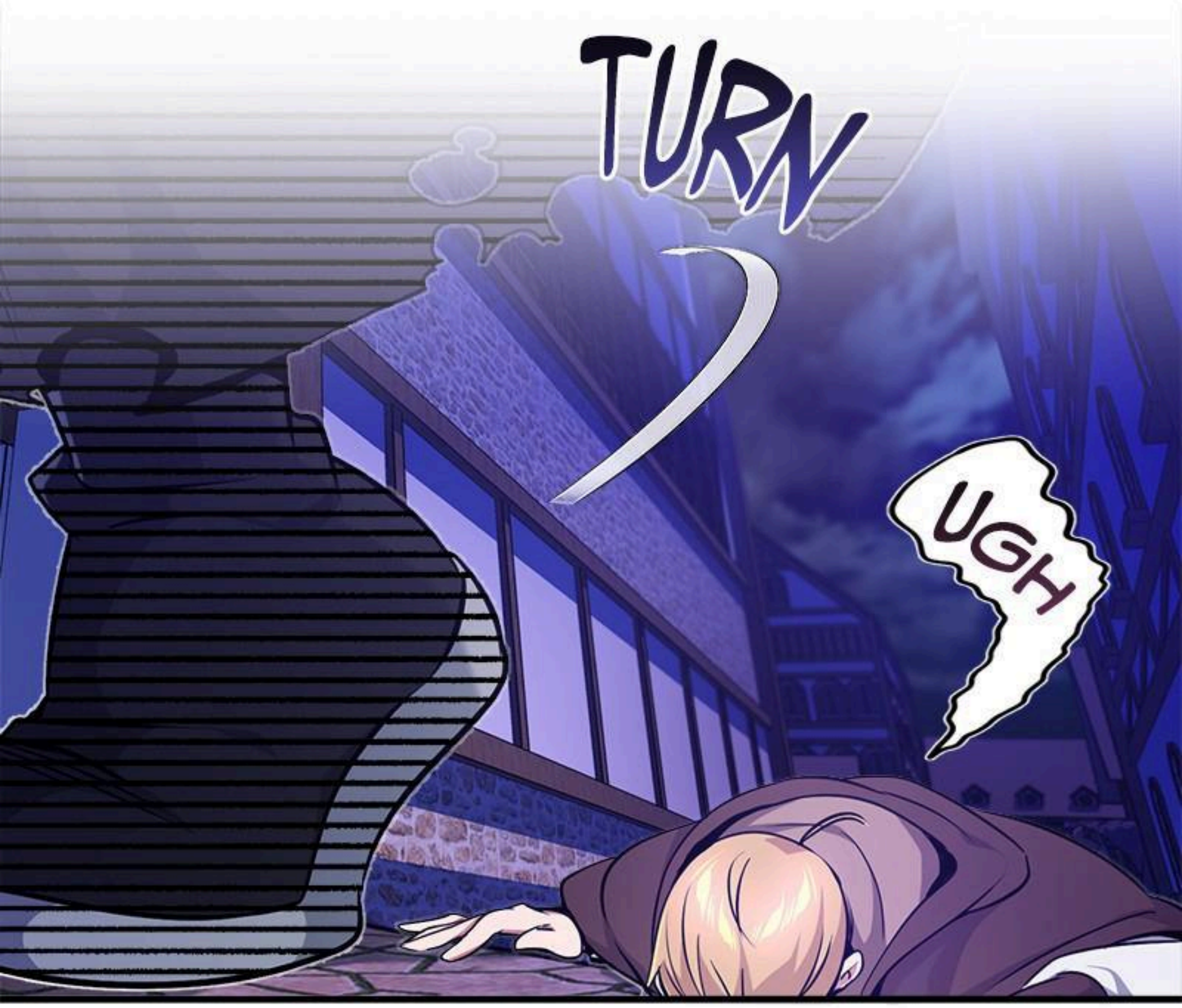
THUD!

...


I WAS RIGHT
ABOUT THE ANNOYANCE
PART. I'LL JUST LEAVE
HIM TO STARVE
TO DEATH.

ALMOST HAD ME.


LET'S GO,
BLACK.

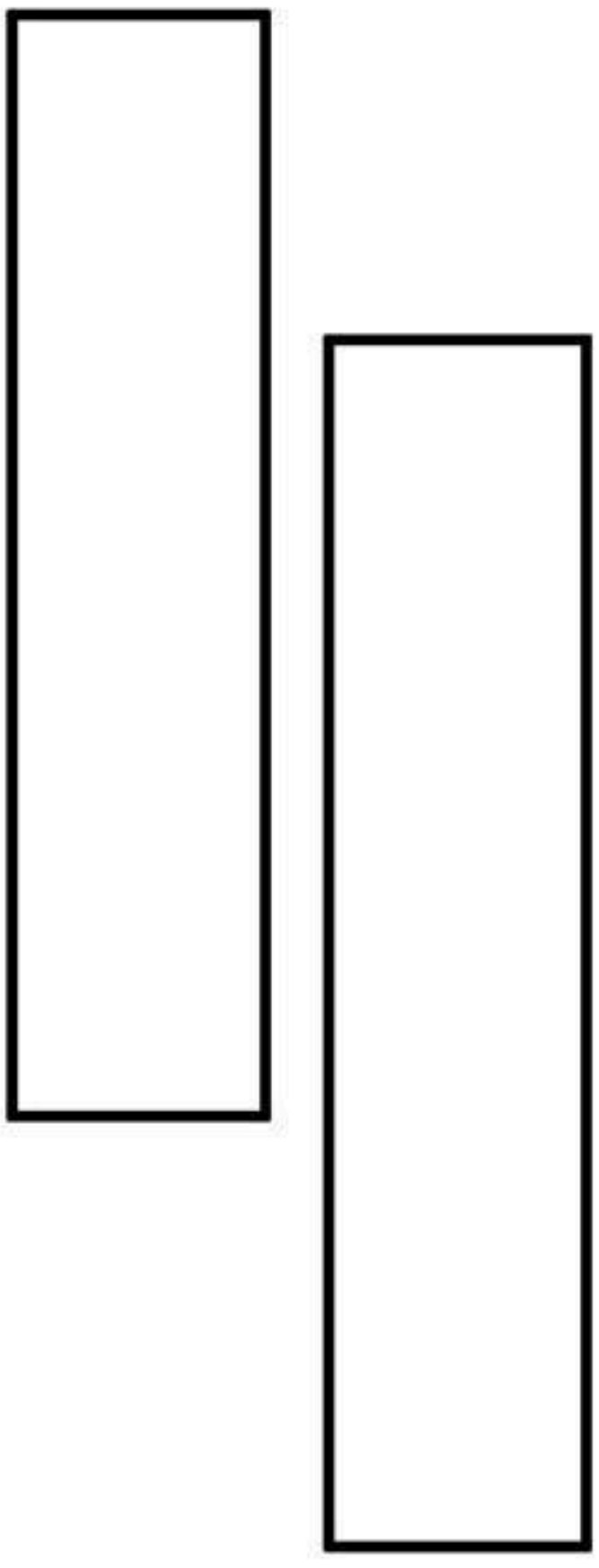

TURN
UGH

66,666 Years: Advent of the Dark Mage

Art♦PASA / Adapt♦TARU / Original♦Hwabong

Ep. 16

A TRACKER OF CHIMERA



TWEET

TWEET


WHY IN THE WORLD...


MORE
ANNOYED

SO, YOU'RE JAMIE!
IT IS AN HONOR TO
MEET YOU!

BEAM



...IS THIS UNPLEASANT MAN EATING WITH US IN OUR HOUSEHOLD?

I WOULD HAVE DIED ON THE STREETS IF IT WASN'T FOR YOUR KINDNESS, EARL.

PSH

JOY

HA-HA

IT WAS MY GUARDS THAT FOUND AND BROUGHT YOU HERE. YOU SHOULD BE THANKING THEM.





THE GUARDS THAT CARRIED ME HERE ARE ALL UNDER YOUR COMMAND.

SO IT IS

SAFE TO SAY, IT WAS YOUR KINDNESS THAT SAVED ME!

HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU?

HAHA.
ENOUGH WITH THAT.
BUT IS IT COMMON FOR
A PALADIN TO STARVE
TO DEATH ON THE
STREETS?



IT'S NOT
SOMETHING THAT
HAPPENS OFTEN, BUT
WE'RE HUMAN TOO,
AFTER ALL.

I DID HEAR,
HOWEVER, THAT
MORE EXPERIENCED
PALADINS HAVE GREATER
ENDURANCE IN ALL
ASPECTS.

HE IS GETTING
ON MY NERVES!
WHY ARE FATHER AND
MOTHER SHOWING SO
MUCH KINDNESS
TO THIS FOOL?

AHH

SO YOU'RE A FOLLOWER OF PEIRO?



YES, SIR. I SERVE PEIRO,

THE GODDESS OF FORGIVENESS AND PUNISHMENT.



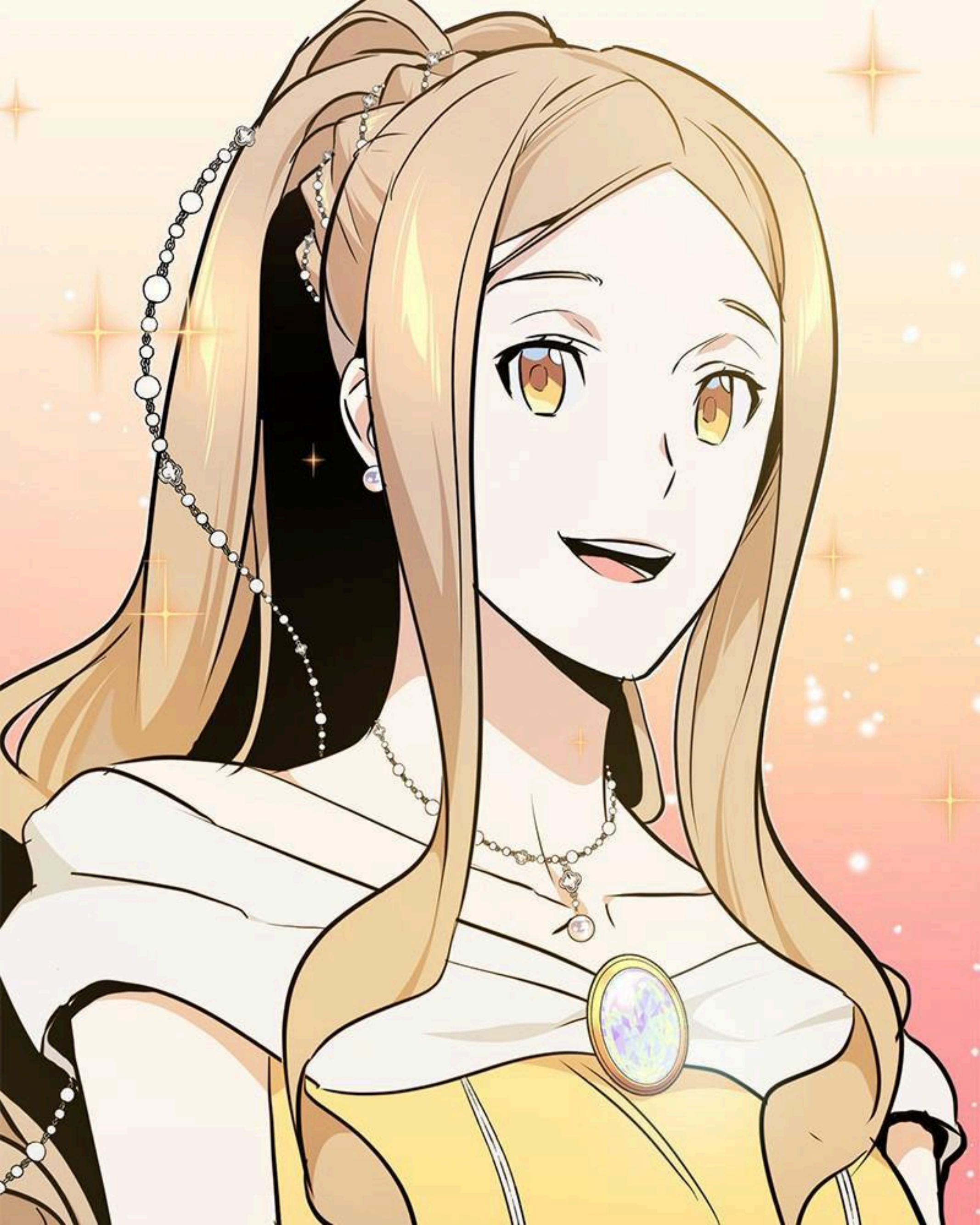
WE WERE QUITE SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT AT FIRST. RIGHT, HONEY?

THAT IS RIGHT.
IT WAS SURPRISING
INDEED.

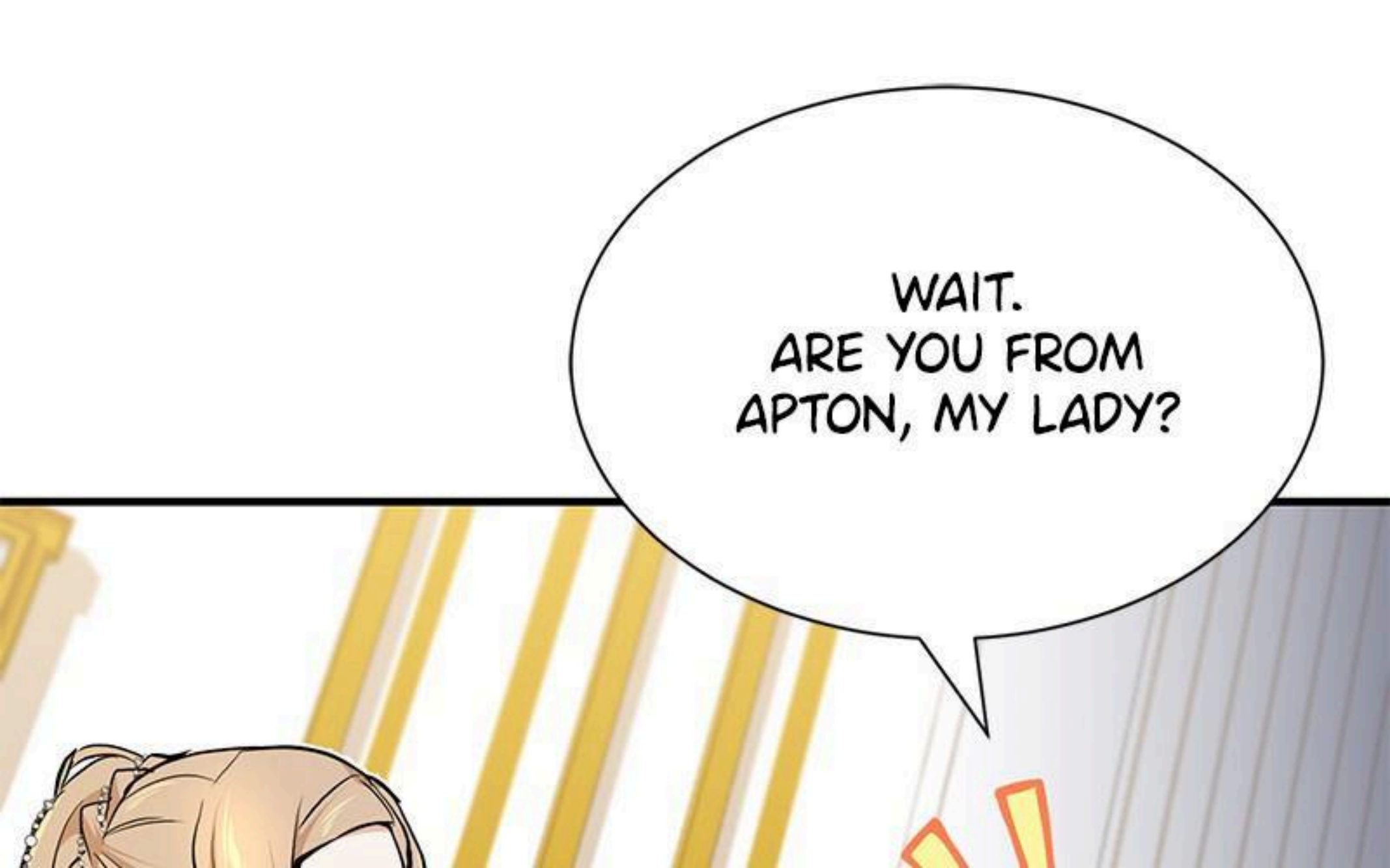
SURPRISED?

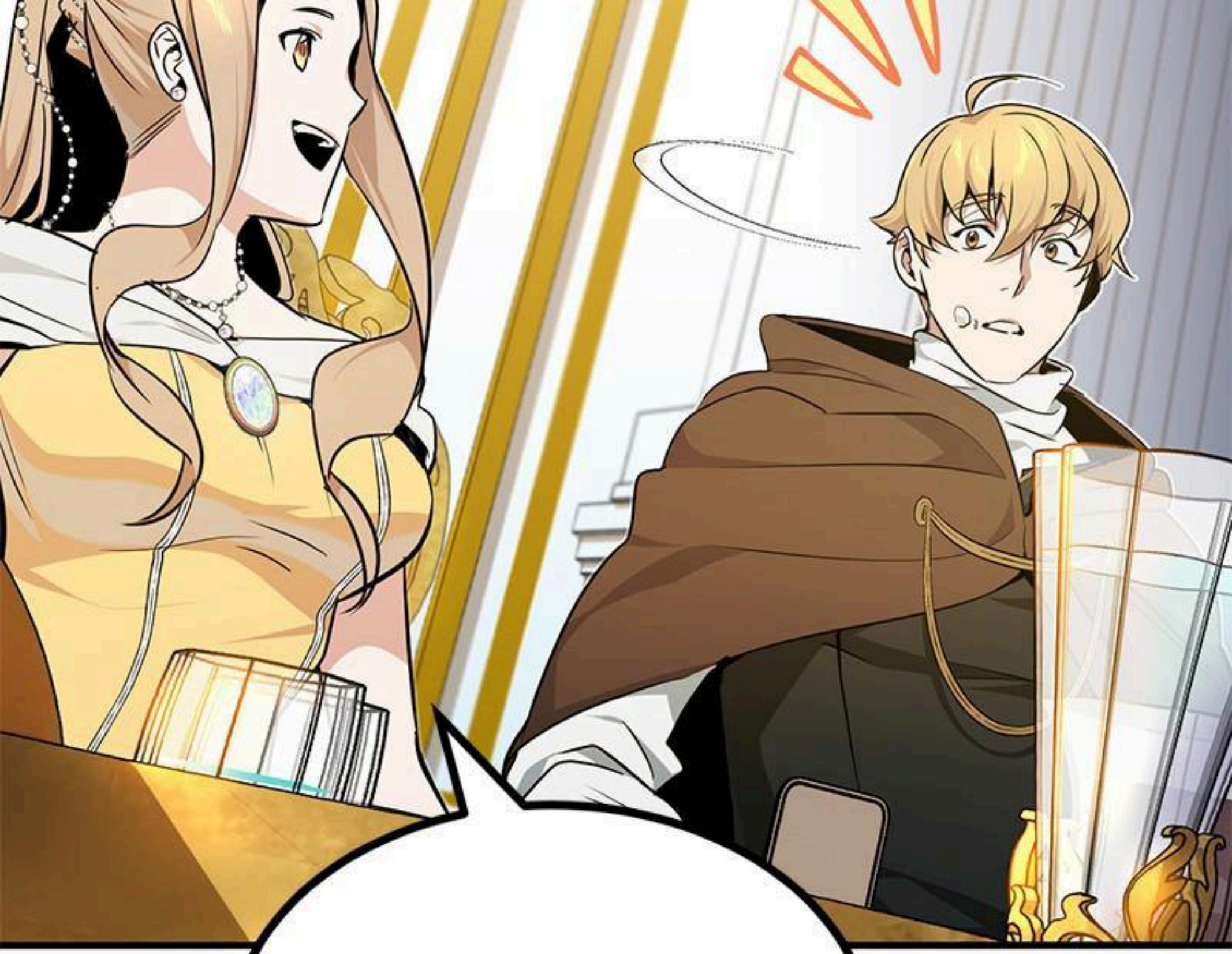
IS... EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?

DO YOU KNOW OF BISHOP SEPHIRA, BY ANY CHANCE?





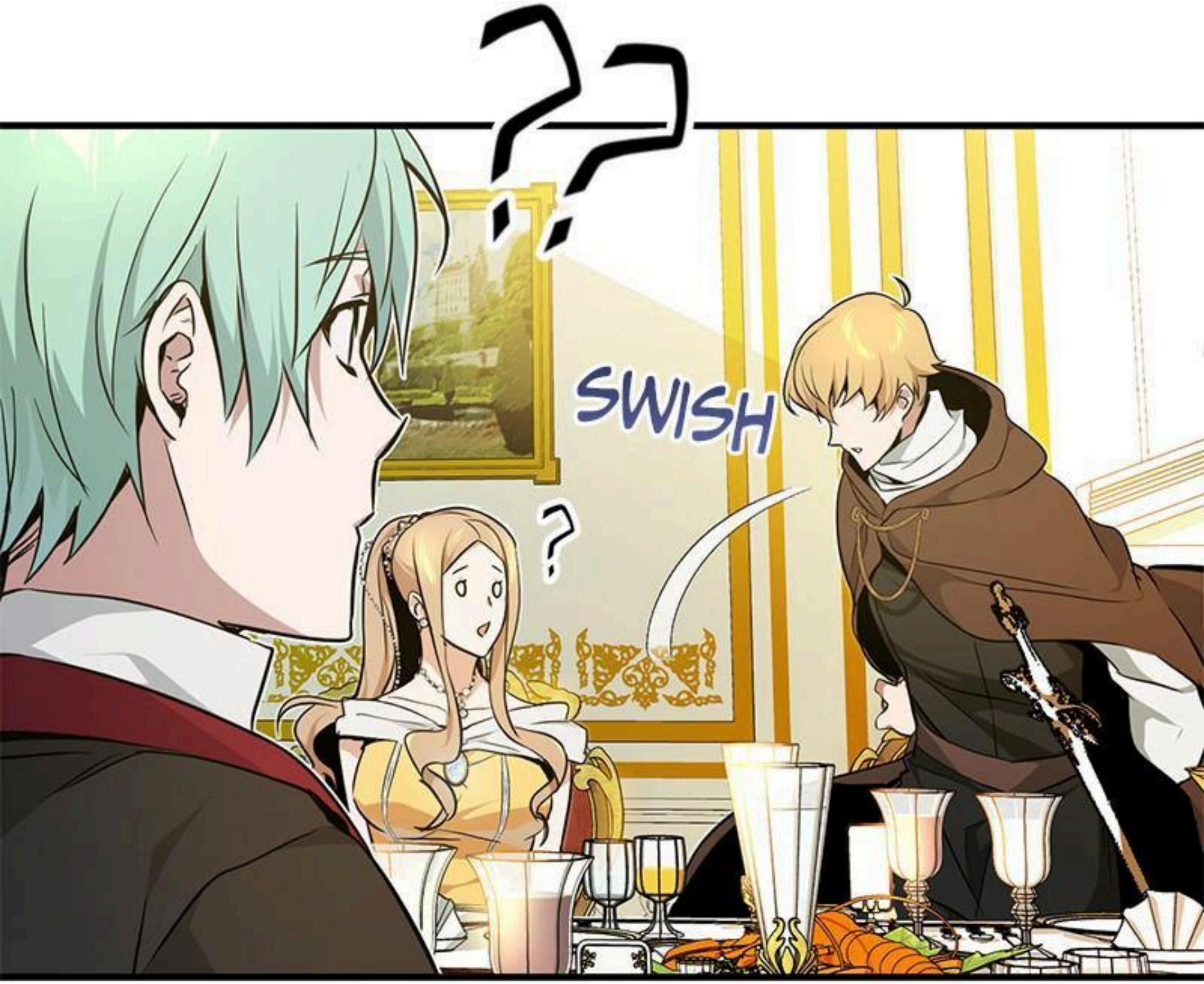

WAIT.
ARE YOU FROM
APTON, MY LADY?


I AM FROM THE
BELLE HOUSEHOLD.

!



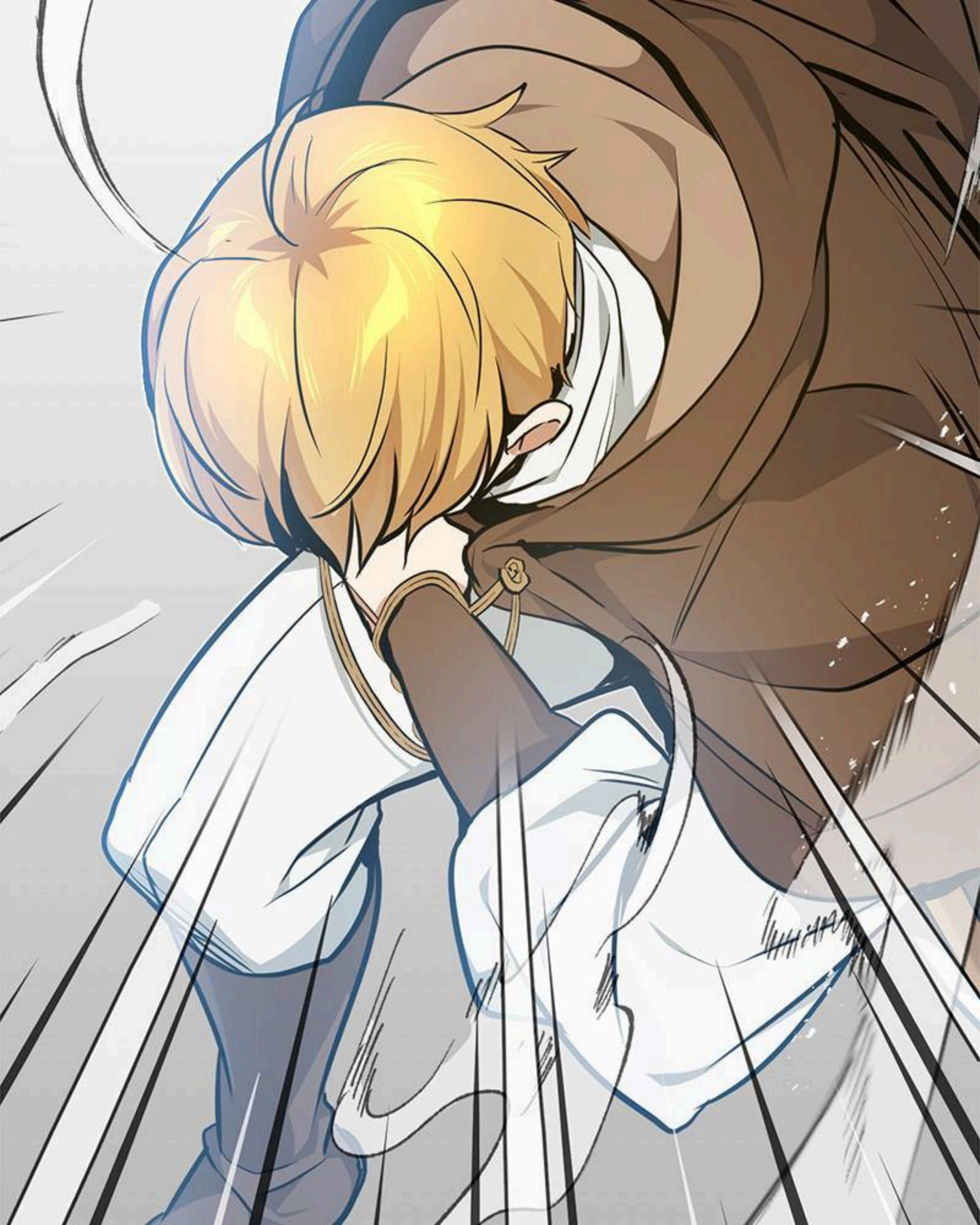



SWISH
?



WHAT AN HONOR TO HAVE MET YOU, YOUR LADYSHIP.

WHISH





WHAT IN
THE WORLD IS
GOING ON HERE?





I AM AWARE THAT THE ORDER OF THE FAITH IN PEIRO IS A WELL ESTABLISHED RELIGION IN THE APTON ESTATE OF THE BELLE HOUSEHOLD.

BUT THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE A PROSTRATION.

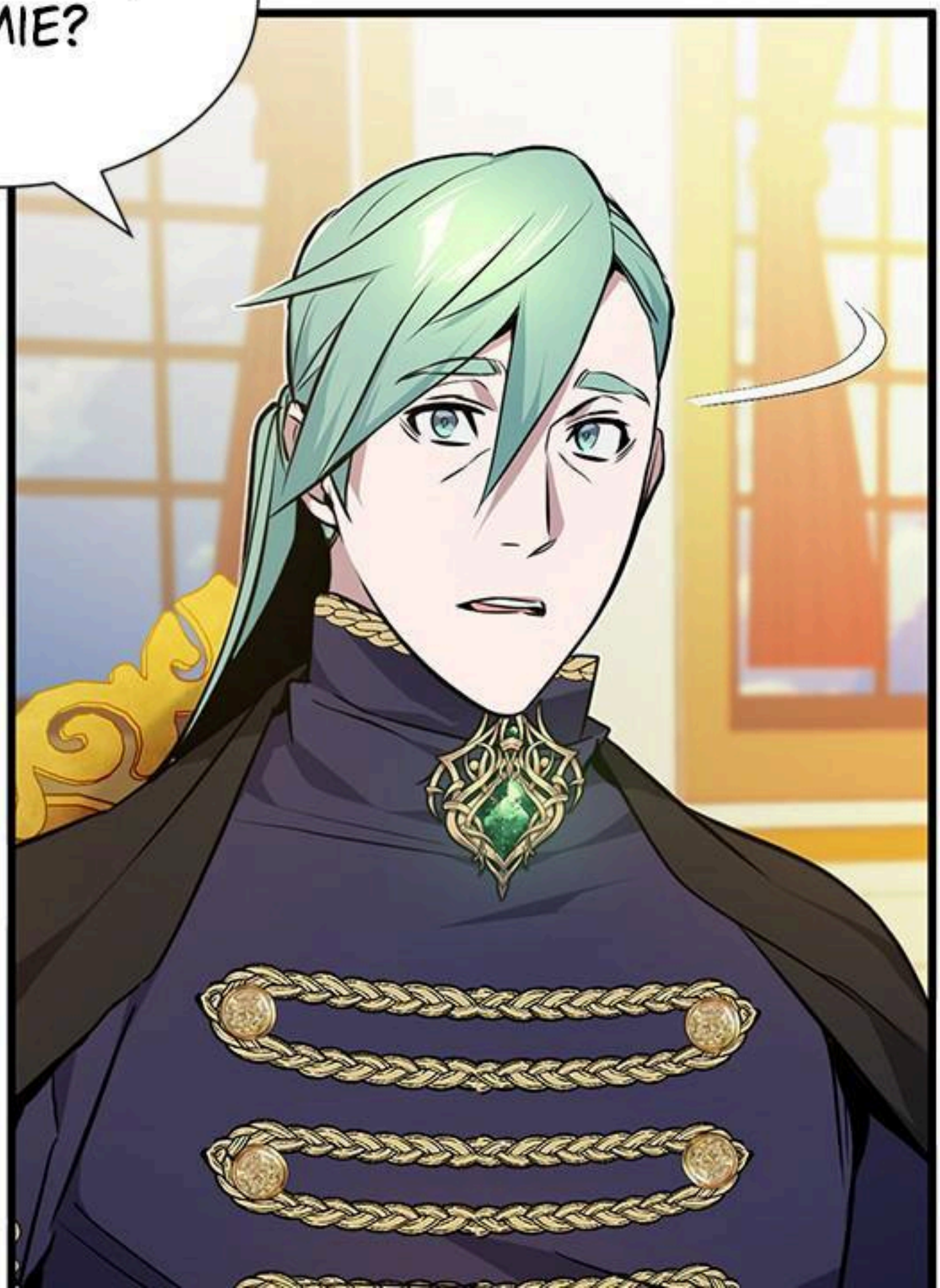
PROSTRATION: ACT OF KNEELING OR LYING FACE DOWN ON THE GROUND, TO SHOW REVERENCE OR SUBMISSION.

A PALADIN ONLY PROSTRATES TO SOMEONE IN THE RANK OF BISHOP

IN THE RANK OF BISHOP OR HIGHER. SO WHY DID HE?

FATHER, FATHER!

WHAT IS IT, JAMIE?

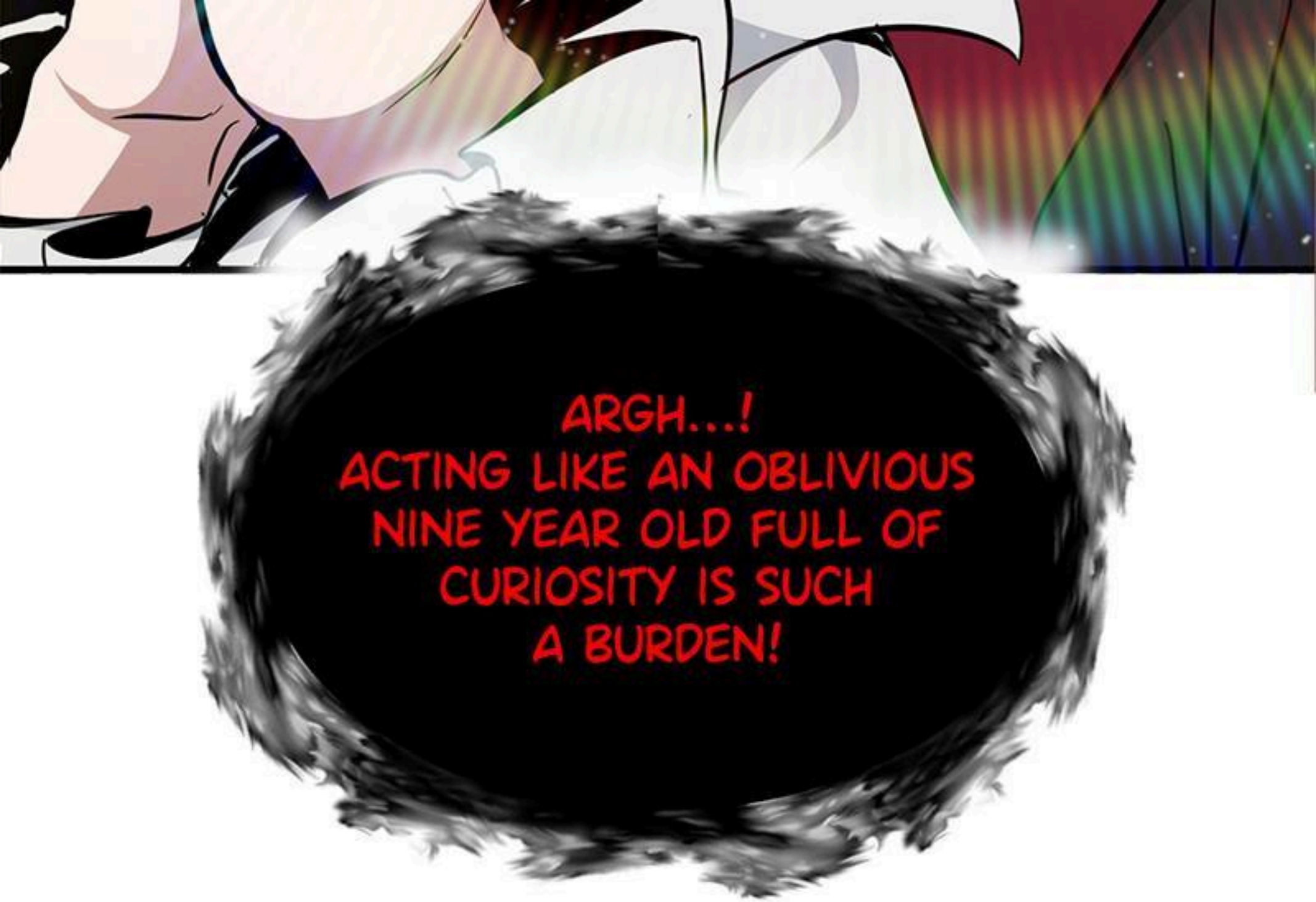




I AM CURIOUS.
WHY DID THAT GENTLEMAN
ALL OF A SUDDEN KNEEL
DOWN IN FRONT
OF MOTHER?

SPARKLE


SPARKLE
SPARKLE


ARGH...!
ACTING LIKE AN OBLIVIOUS NINE YEAR OLD FULL OF CURIOSITY IS SUCH A BURDEN!

OH, THAT, HAHA.
THAT IS ACTUALLY
A VERY LONG STORY. I
WILL EXPLAIN IT TO YOU
LATER WHEN I HAVE
A CHANCE.

DA DUN





OH. OKAY,
PLEASE.

DAMN IT...
ALL THAT ACTING
CUTE AND INNOCENT...

BROTHER!
YOU ARE SO
CUTE!

SWING

SWING

...FOR NOTHING!
THIS IS EMBARRASSING!

ANYWAYS...
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD
IF THERE IS A SPECIAL
BOND BETWEEN THE BELLE
HOUSEHOLD AND THE
ORDER OF THE FAITH
IN PEIRO.

HMM.


AFTER ALL, SHE, TOO,
IS A GODDESS...



...THAT I MUST DESTROY
IN THE END.


SO, HOW DID YOU END UP ALL THE WAY HERE? THE PEOPLE IN THE EASTERN REGION ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE FAITH IN PEIRO.



YOU DON'T INTEND TO PROPAGATE THE FAITH HERE. DO YOU?





NO! NOT AT ALL!
I WAS SIMPLY TRACING
THE FOOTSTEPS OF SOMEONE,
AND ENDED UP HERE!


WHISH


TRACING THE FOOTSTEPS OF WHOM?

SIGH

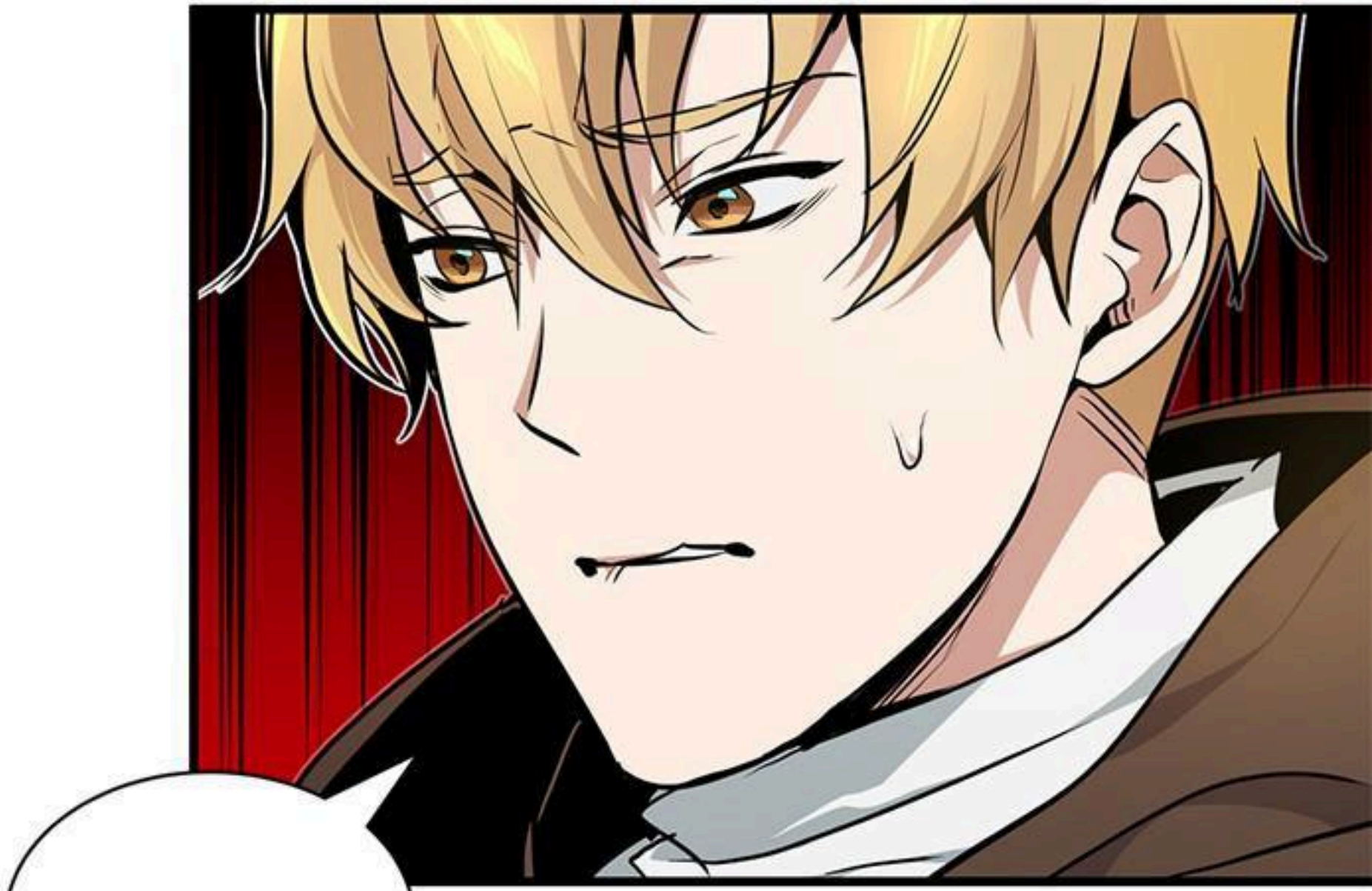
OF SOMEONE
THAT CONDUCTS
HORRENDOUS AND

INHUMANE EXPERIMENTS
THAT ARE FORBIDDEN...

...A CHIMERA MAKER.


WHAT? YOU'RE TELLING ME THERE IS A CHIMERA MAKER WITHIN HEISS? WHO IS IT?!

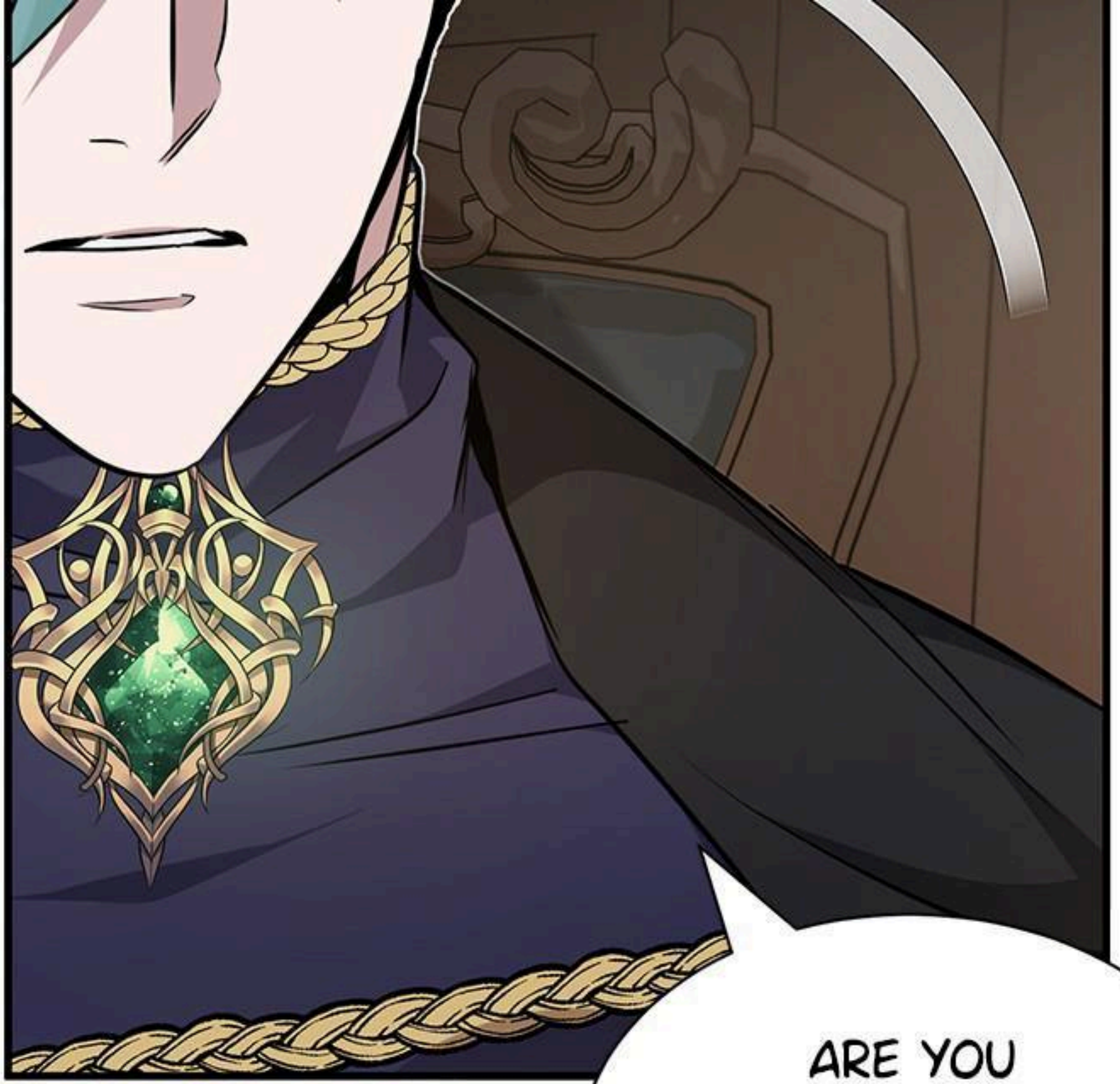
RISE


...

MY SINCERE APOLOGIES, SIRE, BUT THAT IS A TOP SECRET EVEN WITHIN MY ORDER.

I CANNOT SHARE THE DETAILS WITH ANYONE BUT THOSE THAT PROMISE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE OR SUPPORT.





ARE YOU ASKING FOR MY ASSISTANCE IN THIS MATTER?

YES, SIR.
IT WOULD CERTAINLY BE A GREAT HELP IF A RENOWNED SWORDMASTER LIKE YOURSELF SHOWED SUPPORT.

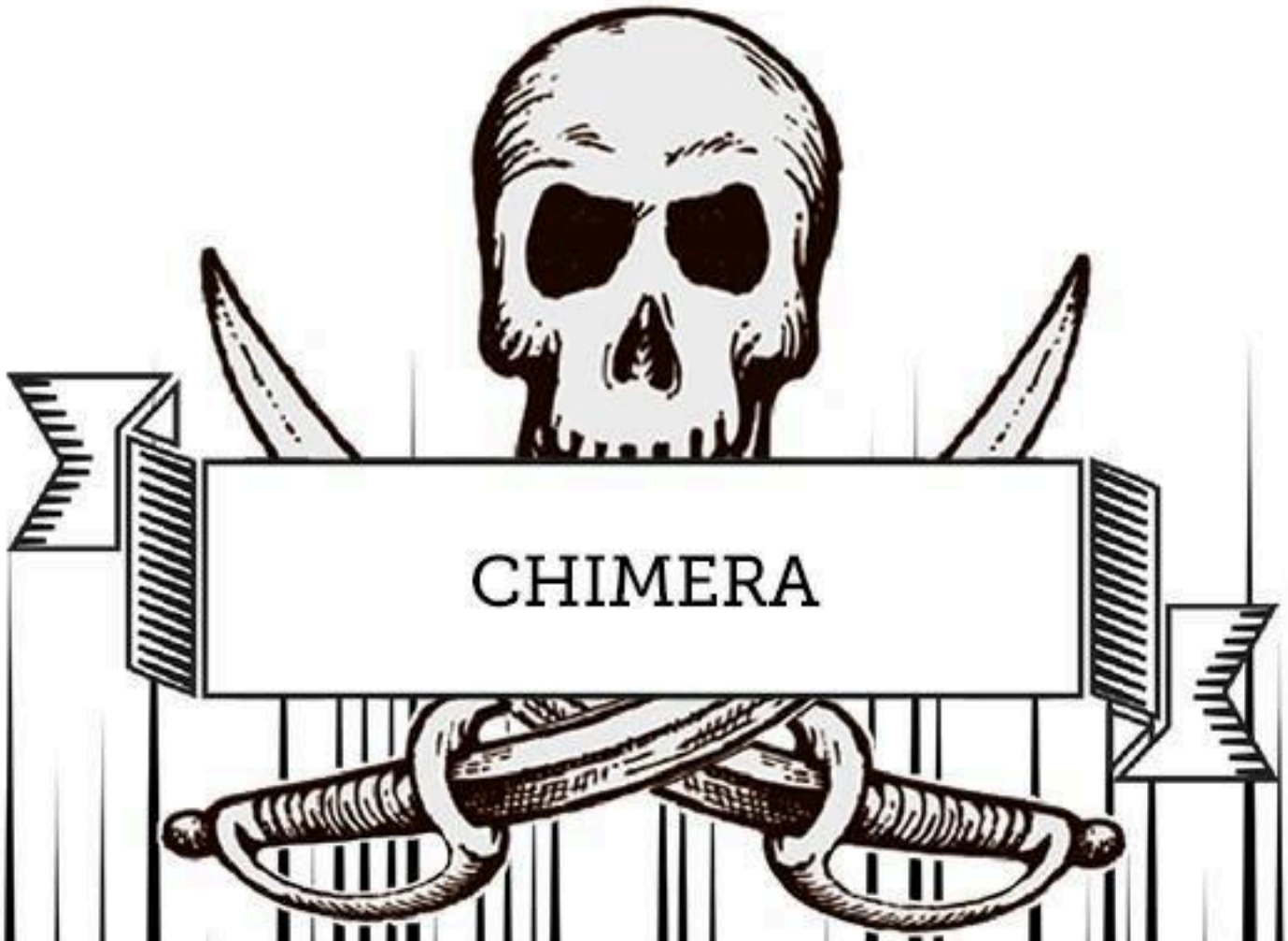




A CHIMERA MAKER, HUH?

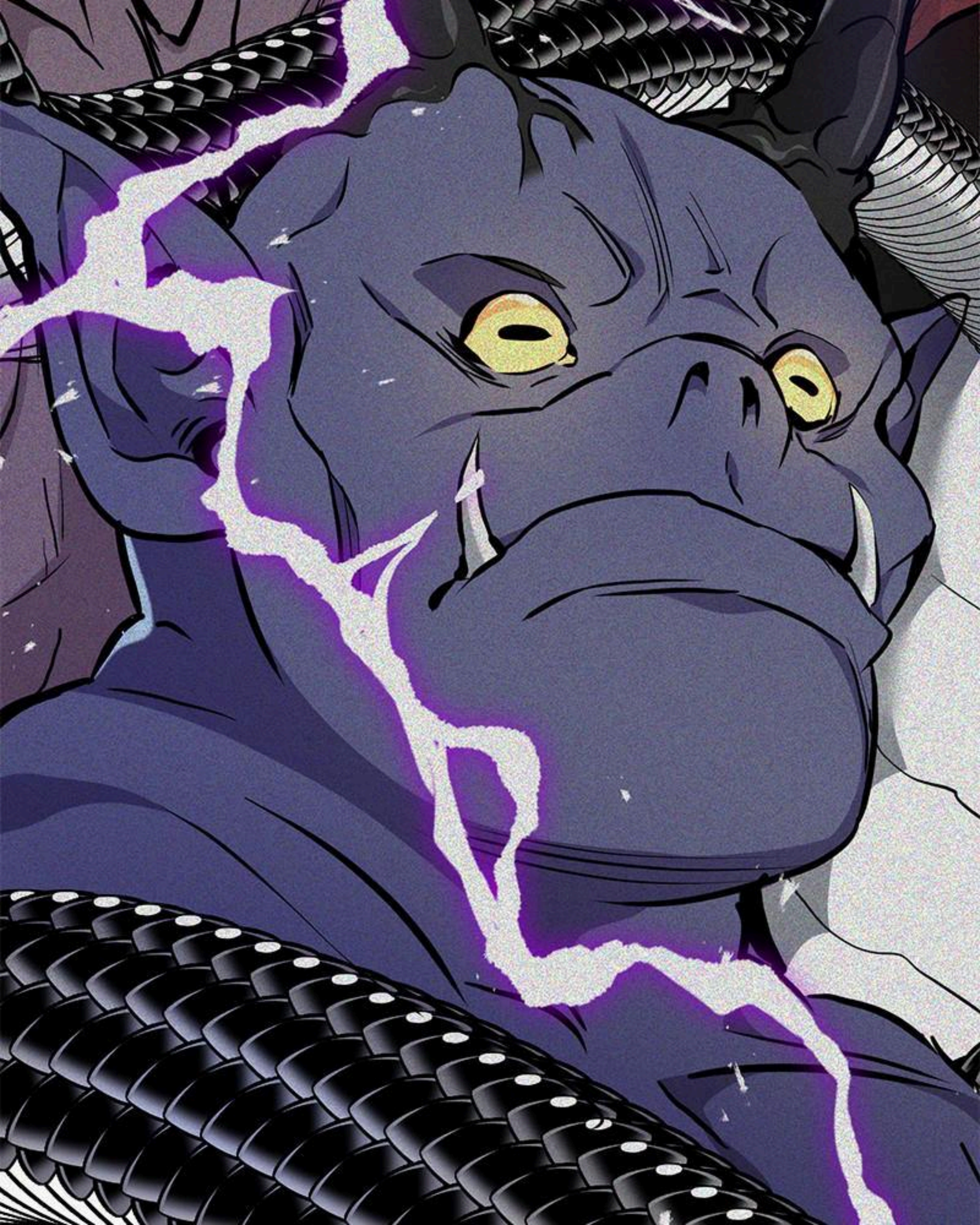





CHIMERA

A CHIMERA,
BY DEFINITION, IS A
BEING ARTIFICIALLY CREATED
BY COMBINING THE STRENGTHS
OF MANY DIFFERENT
CREATURES.


AND CHIMERA
MAKERS ARE MOSTLY
TREATED WITH CONTEMPT...



...DUE TO THEIR INCLINATION
TO USE HUMANS AS INGREDIENTS!

A CHIMERA CAN
STILL BE CREATED WITHOUT
USING HUMANS AS PARTS.

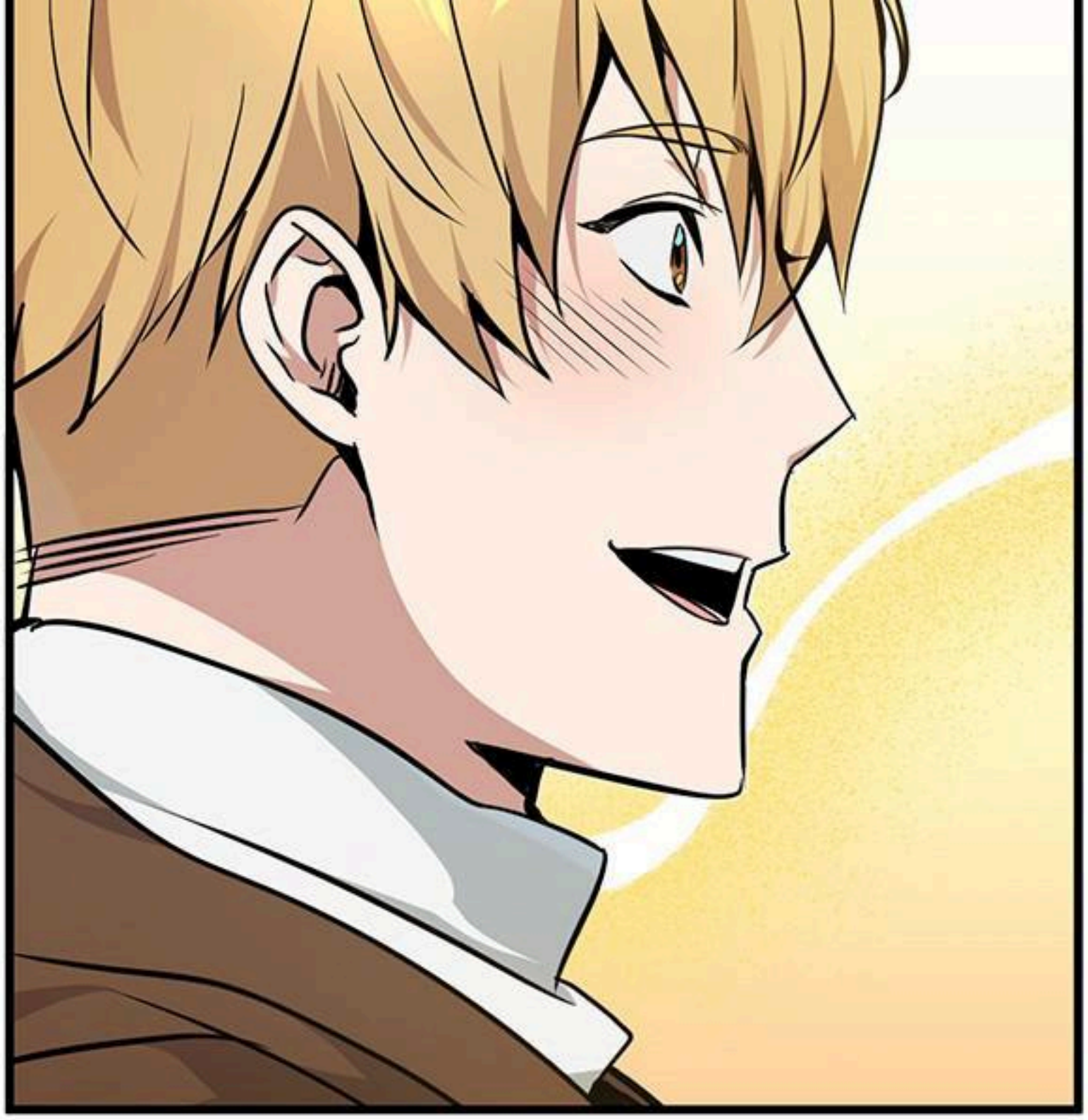
BUT THERE
HAS NOT BEEN A SINGLE
CHIMERA MAKER THAT
CHOSE NOT TO DO SO!


IT IS DIFFICULT FOR SOMEONE IN MY POSITION TO FULLY COMMIT TO ANYTHING.

HOWEVER,
CONSIDERING THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
MY WIFE'S HOUSEHOLD AND
THE ORDER OF FAITH IN

PEIRO, I CANNOT JUST
LET IT SLIDE.





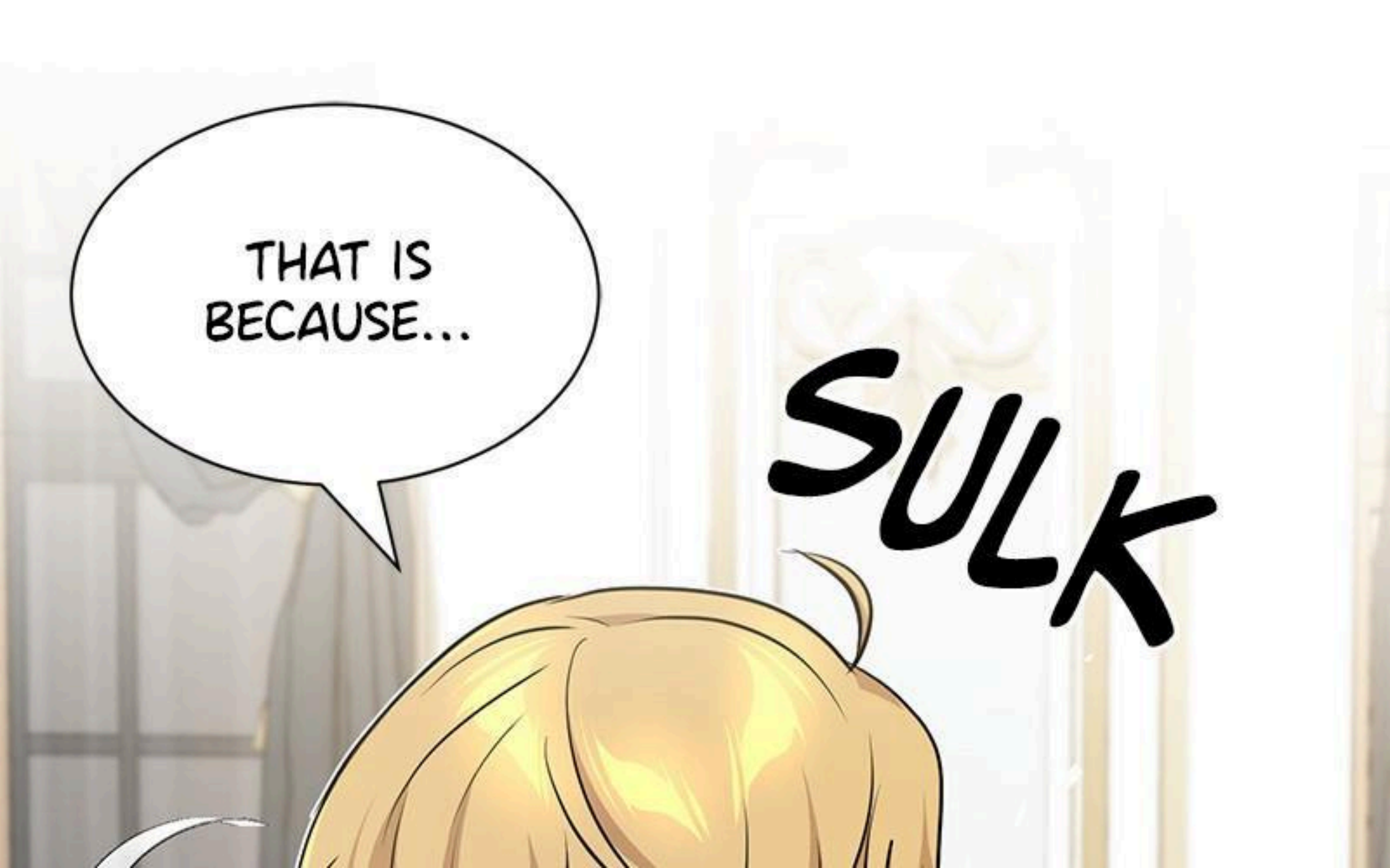
YOU HAVE MY SUPPORT.



THANK YOU SO MUCH, SIR!

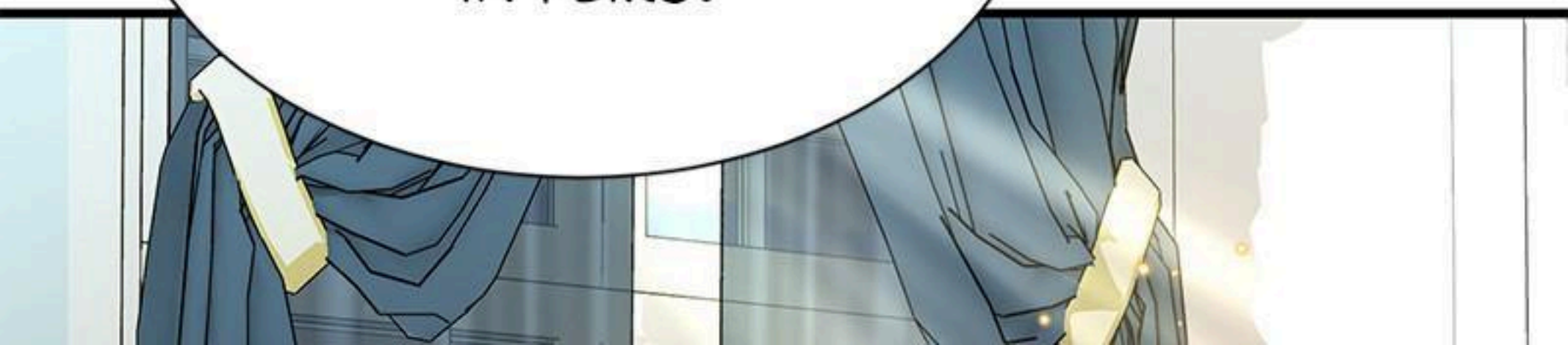



NO NEED TO THANK ME.
NOW. WHY IS THE ORDER OF THE FAITH IN PEIRO CHASING AFTER THIS CHIMERA MAKER? AND WHY HAVEN'T YOU OFFICIALLY PUT IN A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE KINGDOM?


THAT IS BECAUSE...
SULK

...ALTHOUGH THE AID FROM THE KINGDOM WILL NO DOUBT BE A GREAT HELP...

...IT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY TARNISH THE REPUTATION OF THE ORDER OF THE FAITH IN PEIRO.

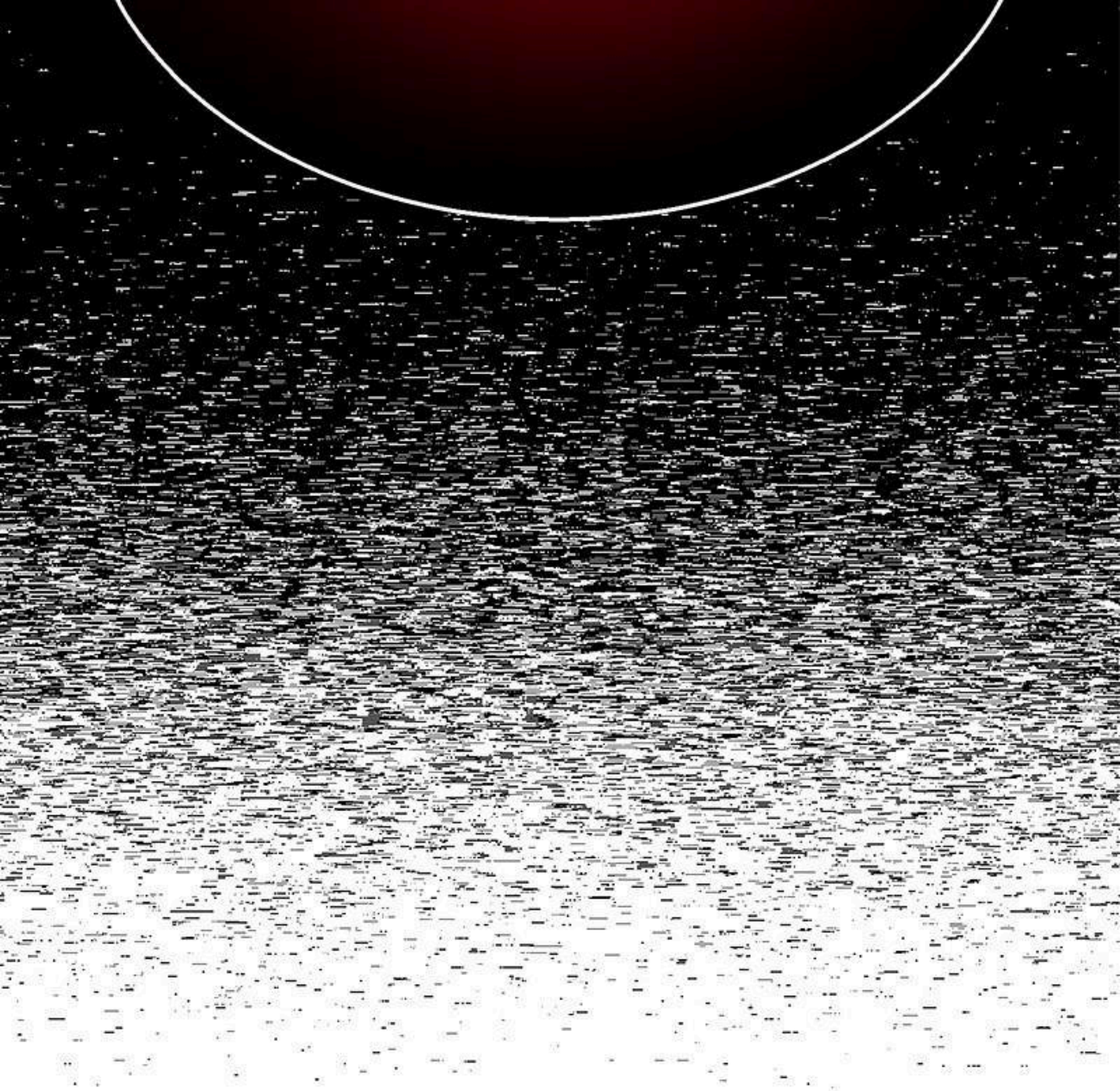



THIS CHIMERA MAKER OUR ORDER HAS BEEN CHASING AFTER...


...MORE THAN
10 PRIESTS HAVE
FALLEN VICTIM TO
HIS DIRTY HANDS
THUS FAR.




THAT MEANS...!



HE IS MAKING
CHIMERAS CAPABLE OF
USING DIVINE POWER.




STEP
STEP

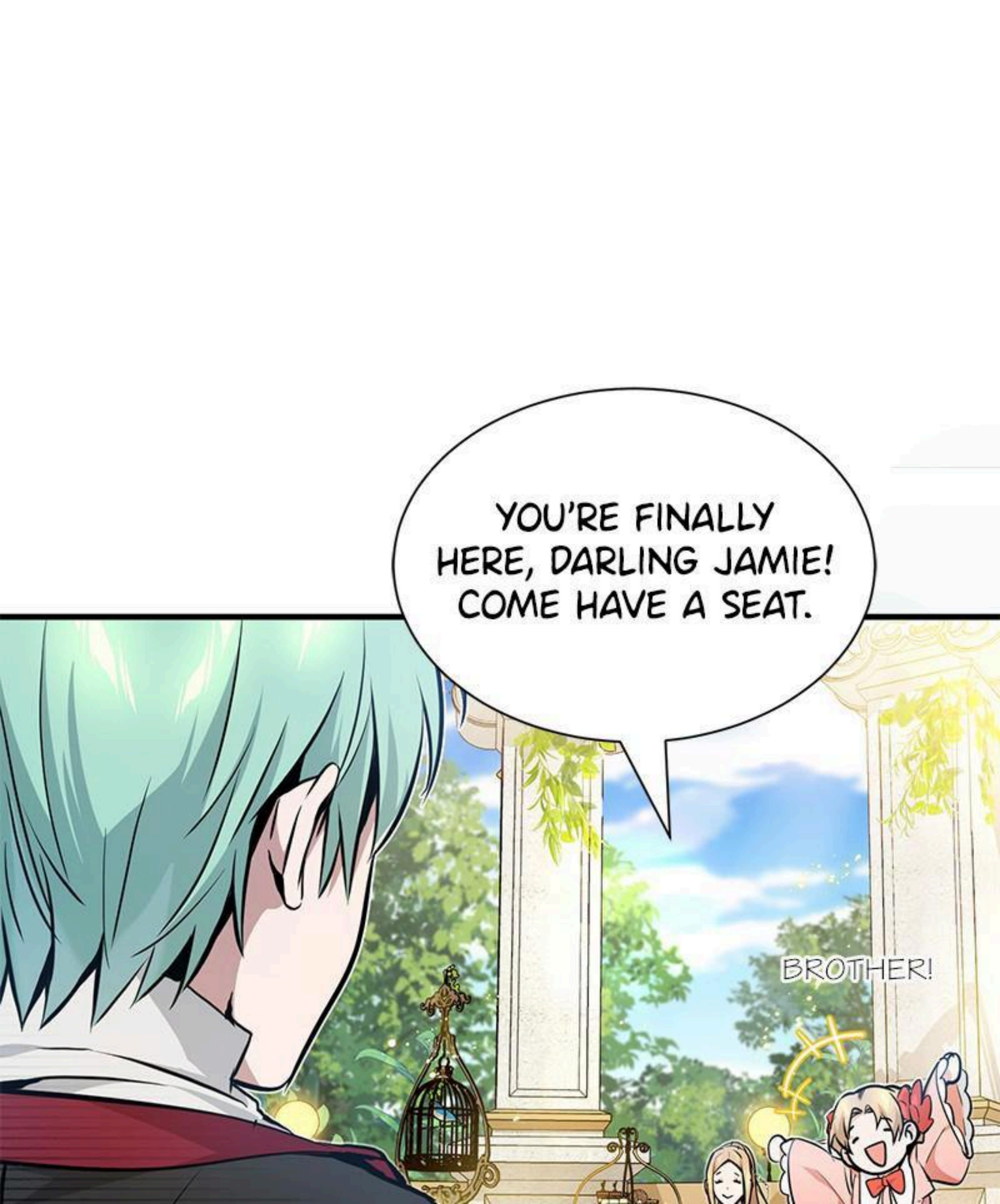


NEVER HAVE
I EVER DREAMED

OF ACTUALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE TEA TIME.



YOU'RE FINALLY HERE, DARLING JAMIE! COME HAVE A SEAT.






BURBLE



GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

OH MY!

OH MY?




PANT
PANT

THAT MAN BEFORE.
WHY DID HE KNEEL DOWN
BEFORE YOU?

SWING

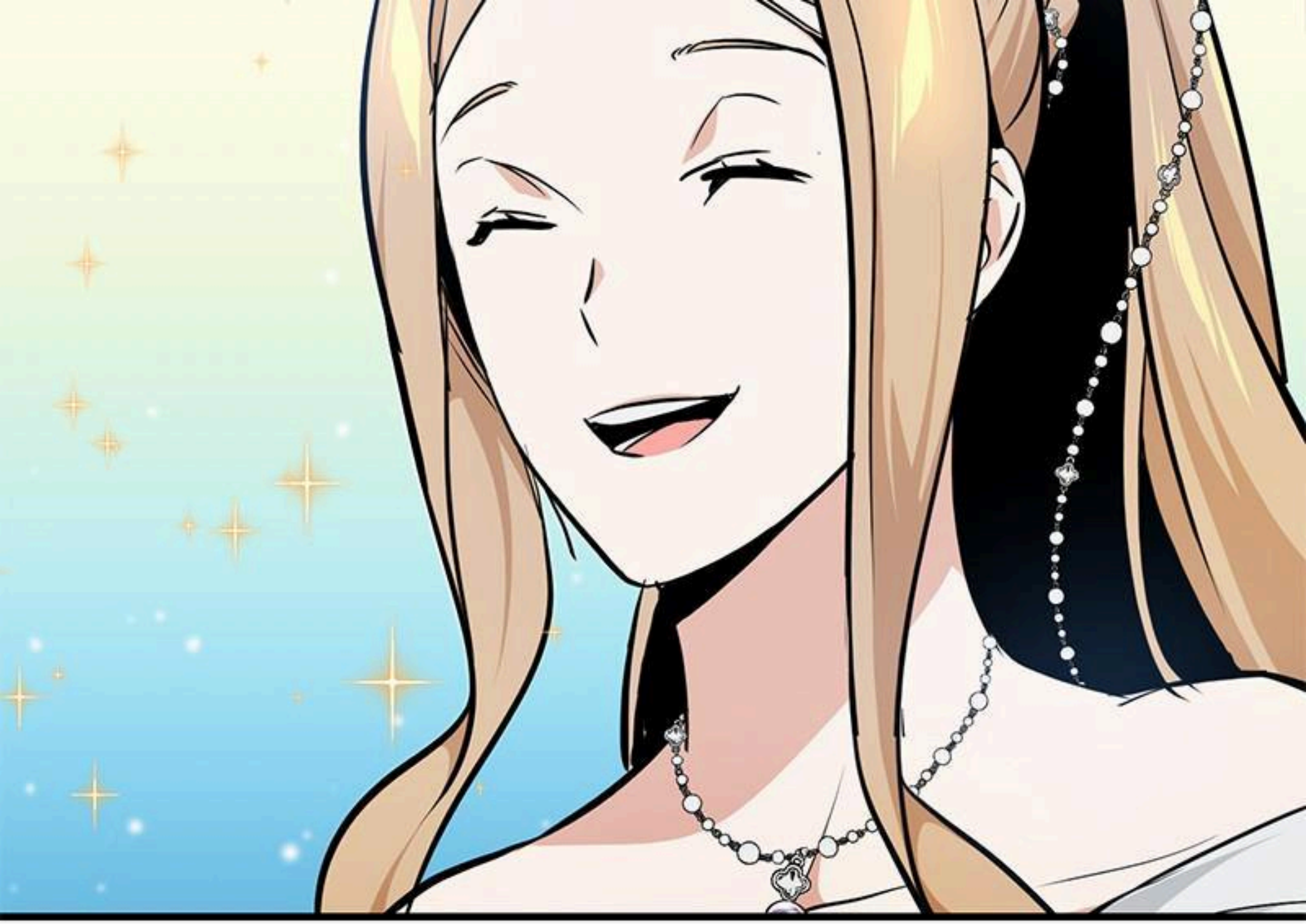
WHAT'S WITH THE ACT OF SHOWING REVERENCE OUT OF THE BLUE?

HAHA. I SEE.
I KINDA HAD
AN IDEA.

YOU WISH TO
KNOW ABOUT THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
MOMMY'S HOUSEHOLD AND
THE PALADIN GUY'S
ORDER. RIGHT?

BEAM

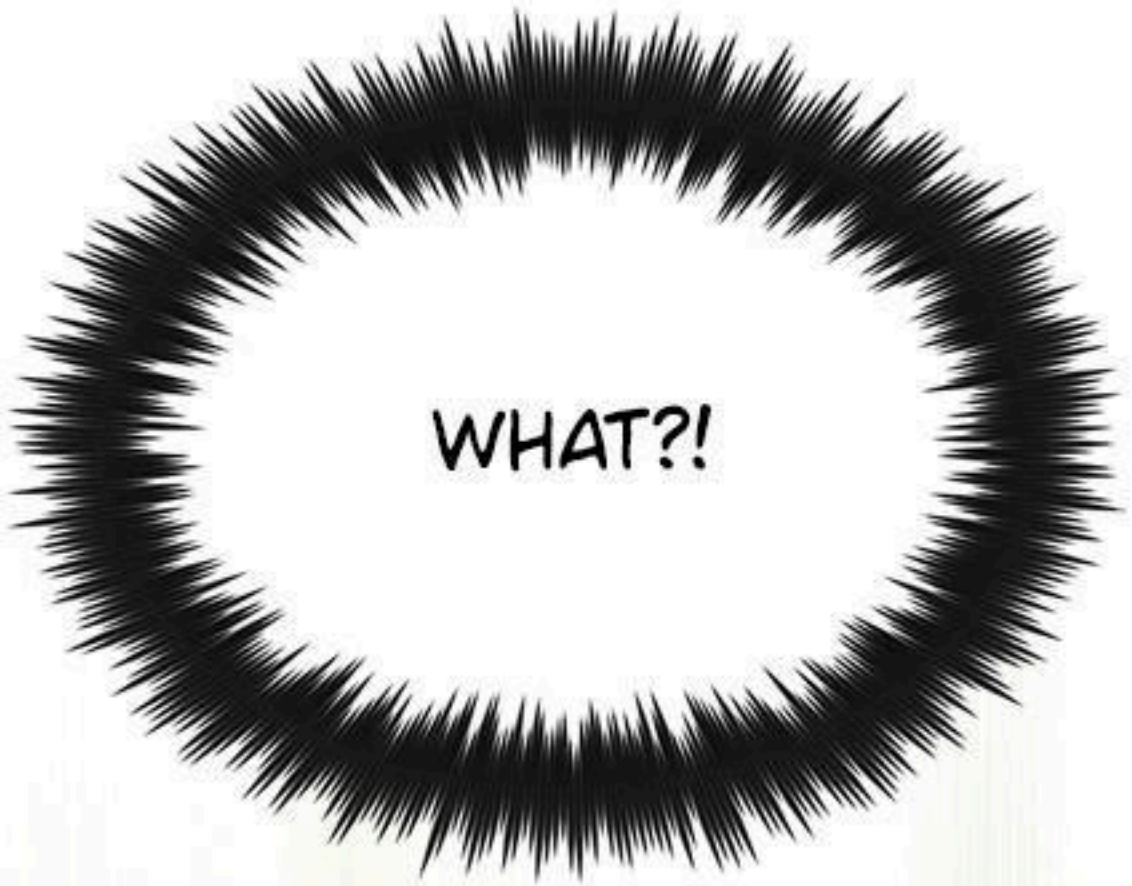




IT GOES BACK
ALL THE WAY TO YOUR
GREAT GRANDDADDY
THAT YOU HAVE
NEVER SEEN.

IN OTHER
WORDS, MOMMY'S
GRANDDADDY...

...HAPPENS TO HAVE BEEN A BENEFACTOR OF THE ORDER OF THE FAITH IN PEIRO.


WHAT?!



MOTHER'S HOUSEHOLD
IS A BENEFACTOR OF THE
ORDER OF THE FAITH
IN PEIRO?!

IS THERE SOMETHING
ON THE BACK OF
MY HEAD??



TO BE CONTINUED

JC MEDIA

background by lido,
coloring by MUO2
correct by banya
editing & design by cafu
production & execution by minkyeong kim